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Bartlett-Bacon bills being passed. Insist on knowing where your Representatives in Congress stand. You have a right to know.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE
ORGANIZE
EDUCATE

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ANARCHY IN WESTERN STATE

Trinidad, Col., April 25.—The inevitable has happened. The state of Colorado abolished civil law and civil government to protect the interests of men, whose spokesman declared he was ready to sacrifice every dollar of his holdings before he would accord the miners the right to organize. In order to enforce that purpose, this state put in the service of the Colorado Fuel and Fuel company its agencies of force and compulsion. They used violence to defeat the strikers in their struggle for the right of men, free citizens, and for the protection of the laws of the state.

Armed troops have ridden down quivering human bodies. They have injured, maimed, killed those who expressed any opposition to their violence. They have destroyed the wretched tent camps, the only protection between the miners, their wives, and children, against the bitter wind, the ice, and snow of the long winter. These miners have endured hunger, cold, and misery for the right to organize.

Once again have the powers of greed and avarice disregarded even the rules of "civilized" warfare, in the latest outbreak of these industrial tyrants, and which is described in two telegrams forwarded President Gompers, A. F. of L., by Secretary-Treasurer Wm. Green of District No. 15, United Mine Workers:

"Denver, Colo., April 21, 1914.

"Striking miners' wives and children slaughtered by mine guards at Ludlow, Colo. Large tent colony in the state destroyed by fire. Latest reports say seven men, three women, and about five children murdered. Protest to national government.

"Denver, Colo., April 21, 1914.

"Ludlow tent colony of 1,200 people housed 1,200 Colorado striking coal miners burned to ground after four men, three women, and seven children were murdered. One hundred fifty gunmen in militiamen's uniform and with state equipment have, with all available machine guns, made organized attack on men, women, and children since daybreak Monday morning. Indications are that mine guards intend to murder all strikers who refuse to go to work at company's terms. One boy, eleven, killed, when he went to get a drink of water for mother who had lain in cellar. Four other children, seven to eleven, driven back by fire, perished. Informed gunmen into blazing tents, burned to death. Gunmen guard all roads. Passengers on trains say fifteen to twenty men and women are lying on prairies in vicinity of tent colony. Society women refer to nurse injured men, women, and babes but are refused. Score more women and children probably concealed and murdered in most terrible massacre in American industrial history. Water supply cut early Monday morning. Two babes forced to lie in ditches and cellars twenty-four hours without food or water. Murderous guards are not content with shot on men and all may be slaughtered. Will you for God's sake and in the name of humanity call upon all your citizenship to demand of the President of the United States and both Houses of Congress that they force Mexico alone to protect Colorado to relieve these miners, their wives and children, who are being murdered by the dozen by murderous mine guards."

Later reports give details of the slaughter. The militia had been again called out to restore "peace" in the Ludlow district. The miners protested against the militia, their lives and the lives of those dear to them. They dug pits to escape the withering fire directed by machine guns on their camp, which was finally engulfed in flames. These pits, no longer places of safety, became death holes for the men of this new danger. The flames swept over the helpless women and children entrapped like rats. In on pit the lifeless bodies of ten children and two women were found. Terrified by the flames, they whistled through the blazing canvasses, the women and children seemed more afraid of the militia than the flames, and huddled in the pits until the smoke and heat brought death in most cruel and terrible form.

This city is horrified by the deaths of defenseless women and children, and the entire state is aflame with indignation which is more intense since the burial of the victims. Trade unionists, together with citizens in all walks of life, are burning with the United Mine Workers in angry protest, and preparations are going being made to call the nation's attention to the practices of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company and its servants in public office.

Washington, April 25.—President Gompers of the A. F. of L. forwarded the following telegram to Secretary-Treasurer Twyle of District No 15, United Mine Workers:

"Washington, D. C., April 21, 1914.

"Am astounded and horrified that any nation contained in your telegrams. First one received little before 6 this evening and the other about 5 o'clock. At once I sent copy of your telegram to Chairman Martin D. Foster of the Congressional Investigation Committee. It may be already too late for that purpose. Will give immediate attention in morning. My heart goes out in sympathy to all who have been so outrageously treated and to the families who survive those who have been killed. The cause of justice and humanity must prevail."

EIGHT-HOUR LAW VIOLATORS.

Fort Worth, Tex., April 25.—Talk that the grand jury will hand down indictments because of eight-hour violations now existing certain contractors in the city nervous. Deputies of the state labor commissioner have been in this vicinity for several days and have had many conferences with the grand jury. The law became effective March 31, 1913, and is modeled after the Kansas law, which has been declared constitutional by the United States Supreme Court. It prohibits the working of any person in this state, county or city work more than eight hours a day, except in cases of emergency. The penalty is a fine of from $100 to $200 for each man working more than eight hours, and every day is a separate offense.

BREWERS INCREASE WAGES.

Washington, April 25.—For some time the brewery workers have been negotiating with the breweries of this city for a new agreement which has finally been agreed to by the employers, who make the following concessions to the brewery trades: Bottlers' wages increased from $15 to $16 per week; keg washers from $15 to $18. All inside workers received an increase of 11 per week per man. Drivers had a flat increase of $1 per hour plus 25 per week. The brewery workers are published in that agreement are not necessary to secure these improved conditions.

WAGE INCREASES REPORTED.

Boston, April 25.—Electrical Workers No. 96 has signed a three years' agreement with employing contractors, beginning July 1. The agreement provides for a wage rate of $4.80 a day until July 1, 1915, when $5 a day will be paid for one year, after which $5.20 will be the scale.

ANTI-TRUST LAW A MENACE

Chicago, April 25.—At a meeting of the Western Economic society, to which all interesting with the National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credits, the Sherman anti-trust law, as now construed by the courts, was declared to be a menace to the legitimate organizations of farmers, and resolutions containing the following were adopted:

"Whereas, the Sherman act as it is now construed is a serious menace to the progress of organization and confederation of men, then

"Whereas, the farmers and other cooperative organizations do not wish to be lawbreakers, neither do they wish for special exemptions of any kind; and

"Whereas, they wish legislation which will not hinder nor forbid such legitimate organization and which will prevent unfair practices by all organizations as well as protect such organizations from unfair discrimination and practices directed by great or small combinations of men, therefore, be it

"Resolved, that this conference hereby demands from Congress legislation which will properly modify the existing Sherman law to the end that this proper and reasonable protection and regulation be extended to co-operative organizations whereby they may become real producers, and to the end that such organizations be fully protected and encouraged thereby."

NEWS FROM BOSTON.

Boston, April 25.—The Bartenders' union has voted to seek a new agreement with their employers, and higher wages and shorter hours will be asked. The four unions of bookbinders in the greater Boston district are discussing the affiliated locals to ask the various central labor bodies to put on the enforcement of all inspection laws. The affiliating loss of life and property, because of ineffective electrical inspection. Protests by the Stationary Firemen and Helpers' association against violations of the eight-hour law are bringing results. The State Board of Industrial Labor has filed complaints in court against several firms. At the last meeting of Steam and Operating Engineers' union ninety-six applicants were admitted. Printing Pressmen's union, No. 67, has decided to launch an organizing campaign. The Lumber Teamsters and Handlers' union is conferring with their employers on a new wage scale. Machinists' union, No. 264, has established a sick benefit fund. Benefits will be paid for 26 weeks and include all forms of extended illness. Steamfitters and Helpers unions, affiliated to the International association, have fixed the minimum wage scale of $5 a day for mechanics and $3 a day for helpers after August 1. Elevator Constructors and Inspectors' union succeeded in making their new scale universal except in two instances.

NEWS FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

San Francisco, April 25.—Waiters are asking wage increases in Class B houses from $12 per week to $15. Cooks are asking $18 per week. Bar and cooks' helpers are protesting against twelve hours labor. The Anti-Jap Laundry league is to receive financial support from many citizens relative to the unsanitary conditions of wretched Japanese and Chinese laundries, which conditions are made possible by the housing and feeding of the employes on the premises of such laundry purposes. Supervisor Gallagher, president of the San Francisco Labor council, has a scheme under consideration to present to the Labor Council a plan for insurance against unemployment. The council believes the plan will contain the international unions could be worked out locally. The metal polishers have entered into a one-year agreement with the Graham stove works, which concedes better working conditions. The glove makers report the unionization of another large firm in this city.

ASK EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Holyoke, Mass., April 25.—The Paper-makers' union has registered opposition to any further delay on the part of the American Writing Paper company in the adoption of the eight-hour system in the mills that are not operating under the agreement with Monday. Committees report that the officials agreed that a thirteen-hour day was too long for men to work, but that the eight-hour system could not put into effect within a short period; in fact, "so upon that it would surprise the committee members themselves." The union rejected the committee's report for the reason that no definite promise have been made by the company for the past two years. It was voted that the committee be called upon to name a definite date when the eight-hour day was to become effective in the mills, and if the company declined to do so the union will select such date and prepare to enforce its decision.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Springfield, Ill., April 25.—Figures compiled by F. G. Blair, state superintendent of schools, show that in six counties of Illinois the cost per student for the year public instruction is less than $10. In six other counties it is above $20. The cost in the ninety remaining counties ranged between these low and high figures. The total number of teachers in the public schools in 1913 was 29,563. The average total salary of each teacher was 7.8 months, the average cost per pupil enrolled was $27.78 and the annual salary of teachers averaged $682.07. In Cook county (Chicago) the figures were paid an average salary of $1,182.87.

ASK EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Bellingham, Wash., April 25.—Asking for eight hours' pay for an eight-hour day, time and one-half for overtime, and a minimum wage of $2.25 per day, the International Longshoremen's and Warehouse Law Mill Workers and Woodsmen has addressed communications to the logging camps operating in the state, and to shingle manufacturers in this section. The action of the union follows a meeting held at Aberdeen, Wash., April 18, at which it was voted to ask for the eight-hour day, with a minimum wage of $2.25 and the demand that this be granted on May 1, if an effort to reach a satisfactory agreement with the employers fails.

CENTRALIA CARMEN STRIKE.

Centralia, Ill., April 25.—The West Side street car line, operated by the Centralia Traction company, was tied up today as result of a strike. The company cut wages from 30 to 17 1-2 cents an hour, and increased the working hours from ten to fourteen.

TEAMSTERS RETURN TO WORK.

Utica, N. Y., April 25.—Several hundred teamsters, who have been on a strike in this city for better conditions, have returned to work, both sides agreeing not to strike their differences be arbitrated.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE DESERVES RECOGNITION

IN THE Congressional campaign of 1908 Frank Buchanan, of the Seventh Illinois Congressional district was elected to Congress for the first time. He had formerly been president of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, and is a thorough-going, consistent trade unionist. During the Sixty-second Congress he proved his worth and loyalty to the cause of labor. During this Congress all of the measures affecting labor, either directly or indirectly, received his support or opposition as they deserved. A number of measures were passed in the Sixty-second Congress favorable to labor. Upon these Representative Buchanan recorded as having voted at all times for the best interest of the workers.

In the campaign of 1912 Representative Buchanan was re-nominated and re-elected and is now serving his second term in Congess. With the experience gained during the Sixty-second Congress Representative Buchanan has made himself increasingly valuable to the interests of labor in the present Congress. He is a fighting trade unionist, ever on the alert to discern the interests of labor, to voice those interests and to use his influence in all measures affecting labor even remotely. He has also grown in influence among his colleagues, who recognize him as one of the most sturdy, consistent, and persistent advocates of the cause of justice.

As a member of the Naval Affairs Committee, Representative Buchanan has done yeoman service in his advocacy of measures protecting the interests of the men employed in the various naval construction institutions operated by the government. He has also insisted that naval construction work performed by outside contractors shall be done under conditions equally as good as those maintained by the government in its own naval constructing stations.

It is not the purpose of this article to name the specific services rendered by Representative Buchanan, but this will be done at a later period. Suffice it to say, however, he has given splendid service on this committee for the Sixty-second and Sixty-third Congresses.

In the Sixty-second Congress Representative Buchanan was also a member of the Committee on Labor, as well as a member of the Naval Affairs Committee.

In the Sixty-third Congress, however, because of the tremendous majority held by the dominant party, committeeships assigned to individual members of the party were reduced in number. Owing to this fact, Representative Buchanan, being a practical ironworker, elected to remain upon the Naval Affairs Committee, because he has an intimate knowledge of the actual doing of construction work where iron and steel are the dominant factors, and he felt that on that committee he could perform the greatest service for labor.

Representative Buchanan has been invaluable not only to the cause of labor, but to the cause of humanity. He is a candidate for re-election, and as is usually the case, because of his staunch and consistent course in fighting for the cause of human justice, opposition is being created to prevent his return to Congress.

The American Federation of Labor recognizes the services Representative Buchanan has rendered to the workers of the whole country, and extends to him every assistance in his campaign to be returned as a member of the Sixty-fourth Congress.

The trade unionists of the Seventh Illinois district should bend every energy and work unceasingly to the end that Representative Buchanan secure re-nomination and re-election.

It is the duty of all trade unionists of Chicago, even though not residents of the Seventh district, to do their share in assisting in the general campaign for the purpose of returning Representative Buchanan as a member of the Sixty-fourth Congress.

This is a duty which the trade unionists of the Seventh district owe not only to themselves, but to the workers of the entire country.

Meritorious service has been honestly and faithfully performed, and in recognition of Representative Buchanan's fealty, loyalty, and fighting ability the trade unionists should see to it that he is returned to continue his work as a champion of the great cause which he represents.

PREDICT PROSPERITY WAVE.

Rochester, April 25.—A prosperity wave in the near future is predicted by Edward J. Cattell, Philadelphia statistician, in an address in this city. The speaker said in part:

"I can see nothing but prosperity for the old thirteen states, and I believe the past year of slow progress, forcing economies in production and a careful reconstruction of the whole machinery of commerce and manufacture will, in the end, prove a great advantage. The East is waking up. Intensified farming is nowhere receiving closer attention than along the Atlantic seaboard. South-ern showing wonderful activity. In the matter of developing the great tools of trade, the next fifty years promise about to be inaugurated, is an event of the importance, indeed, no money could be greater to the wonderful courage of the American people than the one in which they have calmly believed without excitement, a complete reorganization in the banking, currency and tariff systems of the country and the assurance with which the great commercial situation is being met is conclusive proof that it will be successfully solved."

MILLIONS FOR ROAD WORK.

Washington, April 25.—Funds available in all of the states for the improvement of roads during the year 1914 are shown in the Official Good Roads Year Book, recently issued by the department. The total appropriations by the state legislatures for road improvement in the various states are variously as follows: Alabama, $790,000; Arizona, $535,724; Colorado, $375,000; Delaware, $110,000; Idaho, $375,000; Illinois, $3,500,000; Iowa, $7,316,000; Kentucky, $2,000,000; Maine, $1,540,000; Maryland, $2,700,000; Massachusetts, $2,447,315; Michigan, $4,182,972; Minnesota, $5,672,584; Mississippi, $1,720,000; New Jersey, $750,000; New Mexico, $387,194; New York, $8,000,000; North Carolina, nearly $5,000,000; North Dakota, $2,365,000; Ohio, $3,500,000; Oregon, $3,388,000; Pennsylvania, $3,500,000; South Carolina, $1,600,600; Virginia, about $2,000,000; West Virginia, $2,286,557, and Wisconsin, $1,220,000.

LAW INCLUDES SECTION HANDS.

Denver, April 25.—Labor Commissioner Drake has sustained the United Mine Workers' union in its contention that section men working in the yards or around the grounds of smelters come under the eight-hour law, which provides that men working "in" smelters, etc., shall not work more than eight hours in any twenty-four. The state official waived aside the technicality raised that section men did not work "in" smelters, and held they were subject to the same conditions as the other men. It was shown that the railroads recognize this and the carmen are working in the yards. In this case, however, the railroad brotherhoods protect their members, and as the section men are unorganized, it was believed they were powerless. The United Mine Workers, however, came to their rescue.

BREWERS WIN LONG STRIKE.

Hancock, Mich., April 25.—When officers of the Brewery Workers union submitted their new wage scale to the Park Brewing company, nine months ago, the management's refusal to consider the demands resulted in a strike. This week, however, the company has changed its viewpoint of the organized workers, and last week signed a scale which is identical with the demands were granted. These are: A nine-hour working day, time and one-half for overtime, and minimum scales of from $15 to $17, according to classes of work. Members of the brewery are all reinstated and the unionists are back on the job.

ELEVATOR WORKERS STRIKE.

Springfield, Mass., April 25.—Failing to secure a satisfactory reply to repeated demands for higher wages, the elevator constructors of this city are now on strike. The men ask an eight-hour day, Saturday half-holiday, time and one-half for overtime, and double time for Sunday work. The men are at present receiving the wages asked are $4 a day and for helpers $2.75. Minor working conditions are also involved.

ICE DRIVERS ADVANCE.

Cleveland, April 25.—Ice drivers and employers have adjusted their wage differences, and the agreement is operative for one year, beginning May 1. It provides that drivers shall receive from $18 to $20 a week, and foremen from $22 to $24 a week.

BEFORE FEDERAL BODY.

Washington, April 25.—At the closing session of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations, held in this city, President Gompers was heard on the questions of collective bargaining, conciliation, and arbitration, which are continually urged by the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Gompers took occasion to again enter vigorous dissent against any form of arbitration which savored of compulsion. He declared that: "The difference between a free man and a slave is the right of the former to say no to dispose of himself, his personality, his labor, his power to work, as he himself may determine at his own will, his own time, his own interest, and not be subject either to the dominating will of an employer on the one hand or the government of the country on the other."

In reply to one of the Commissioner's comment on the preamble of the Western Federation of Miners as an obstacle to mutual agreements, Mr. Gompers said: "These policies are not in accordance with my views, and when occasion has arisen I have had no hesitancy in so saying. The policy which that organization has pursued, however, during the past six or seven years, has been of a constructive character. The American Federation of Labor is at variance with that declaration. But because an organization, in its youth, makes mistakes is no reason why it should not be given an opportunity to become right. That organization has not been given that opportunity in Calumet or in Minersville, N. Y. A member of the A. F. of L. executive council, Mr. John B. Lennon, investigated the Calumet situation. He is no man have I greater confidence. He made the report that no man on strike were in any way justified than the miners in the Calumet district, and no men have conducted themselves more peacefully, and more conservatively, and more within the law than these men."

LONG HOURS FORCE WALK-OUT.

Atlanta, Ga., April 25.—"It's simply a strike, because we couldn't stand the fifteen hours' work day that had been crowded on us for the last six months. We have been working from 7 in the morning till 10 at night, with no stop for meals, for more than we can stand," said the spokesman for striking steel workers employed by the Atlanta Steel company. Requests to the management to shorten the terrific hours were not complied with and the walk-out followed. The officials are not inclined to look upon a 15-hour day as unusual, and are quoted as saying in connection on the strike: "The men can do as they please. If they want to quit, let them quit. As to the working hours, we have nothing to say about that."

WOULD PROTECT JANITORS.

San Francisco, April 25.—The Janitors' union has asked the Labor council to aid in getting the building laws of this state so amended that in the future buildings will be so constructed that the windows may be cleaned without danger to life or limb of janitors so employed. There are the janitors and gardeners engaged in this work that insurance rates are prohibitive, and in some cases companies refuse to insure men engaged in this particular line of work.

RECONSIDER ACTION.

Fresno, Cal., April 25.—At special meeting Electrical Workers, No. 100, reconsidered a decision to remain with the seceding branch of their international organization, and voted to affiliate with the bona fide international recognized by the American Federation of Labor. The order is being pursued by these locals along the Pacific slope.

COPPER STRIKE DECLARED OFF.

Hancock, Mich., April 25.—By a referendum vote of the various locals interested, the Michigan copper strike has been declared off. The Bulletin, official paper of the striking miners, in announcing this fact, says: "At the meetings held prior to taking a referendum of the proposition, the question was thoroughly discussed, and the men realizing that all concessions asked at the time of the calling of the strike had been granted by the mining companies with the exception of recognition of the union, they felt as though this demand might be waived, and that they could return to work with the feeling that the strike had been practically won. The companies' only demand is that all union men returning to work must withdraw their union working card, but whether the fires of unionism which finds a home in his breast can be quenched only by force is a question his organization remains to be seen."

LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE ENDS.

Port Arthur, Tex., April 25.—A nine week's strike of longshoremen in this city has been settled and the men are again at work. The strike was caused by differences between the longshoremen and contractors, or stevedores. The new agreement provides for an increase of 1-2 cents per hour in the wages of cotton. All coastwise work will be done at the rate of 40 cents an hour. The discharging of cars for assembling will be paid for at the rate of 30 cents an hour, but the union relinquish their claim that this is longshore work. The work at the docks is to be done half and half, white and black, in a gang, which the Galveston wage basis applying in virtually every case. A representative of the United States Department of Labor assisted in making a settlement possible.

ORGANIZE LAUNDRY WORKERS.

Toledo, April 25.—Local unionists are assisting Miss Sarah Brick, of the International Laundry Workers' union, in an organizing campaign in this city. Mass meetings are being held for this purpose, and it is shown that hundreds of women employed in the laundries receive less than $6 a week. The Laundry Workers' union has 250 members, and efforts will be made to increase the membership to 1,000. The union's agreement with proprietors expires May 1, and a new contract, calling for a twenty-four hour day, fifty-four hour week and increased wages.

TO HAVE NIGHT COURT.

Los Angeles, April 25.—Supplementing the eight police court, which handles misdemeanor cases, the establishment of a night superior court, with jurisdiction over felony cases, is proposed. The new court will deal with the felony cases arising out of domestic difficulties—failure to provide, and the like. The court was deemed necessary for the service of witnesses in domestic cases, who frequently lost their jobs by reason of having to come to court in the day time to testify. The night court will hold sessions once a week.

ONLY TWO KINDS FOR TYPOS.

Tacoma, Wash., April 25.—Because the International Typographical union recognizes only two kinds of shops—union and nonunion—the attempts to settle differences between employers and employments have so far proved ineffective. A new wage scale is blamed for the trouble by the employers, but the printers show that the combined cost to the five shops affected by the strike is less than the employers' refusal to answer requests for conferences, together with their ideas of labeling nonunion shops "open," are responsible.

STRIKE, ORGANIZE, AND WIN.

Buffalo, April 25.—After being on strike two weeks for a new wage scale, 300 painters employed at the Frontier Company realized the value of organization and formed a local affiliated to the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, whose national officers, together with a committee of the newly formed union, visited the glass company with the result that a conference was arranged for, and that the reinstatement of all strikers was quickly agreed to.

ADJUST HORSESHOERS' STRIKE.

Newburgh, N. Y., April 25.—An arbitration board has settled the horseshoers' strike in this city. Both sides made concessions, but a prohibitive rate for Sunday and holiday work is agreed to for the purpose of ending this practice.

PRINTING STRIKE SETTLED

Akron, Ohio, April 25.—The most stubbornly contested struggle ever waged by the allied printing trades came to an end when the Superior Printing company (formerly known as Werner's) signed an agreement with the locals in this city affiliated to the International Typographical union, the International Pressmen and Assistants, and the Brotherhood of Bookbinders. The eight-hour day will be recognized, and the company agrees to pay the union scale and time and one-half for overtime. A apprentice regulations are agreed to and the company pledges itself to observe other conditions. In many departments union men have already been placed in charge. The management further agrees that all union men employed must remain in good standing in their organization, and no objection will be raised if persons now employed join the organization of their craft. The strike started over ten years ago, and during the business bitter feeling was developed. The Werners, under whose management the strike began, are no longer connected with the institution, and the differences have practically wrecked the business of one of the finest printing plants in the country, because of opposition to the allied crafts, who stood squarely behind them at this time. The unionists agree with the new management that both sides should forget and work in harmony to the end that the plant, now on a union basis, may regain its lost prestige.

PAINTERS RAISE WAGES.

San Francisco, April 25.—Local painters have called on the Master Painters' Association to grant a wage increase from $4.50 a day to $5. About 4,000 workers are involved.

Manchester, N. H., April 25.—While strikes have been called in some cases, painters in this city report the wage increases asked for by them have been granted without a strike. The new scale, which provides for an eight-hour day and a minimum of $3.50 a week, will be signed.

San Jose, Cal., April 25.—A refusal of contractors to pay the new wage scale of painters has resulted in a strike. The workers ask $4 a day, which is being urged in many sections of the State.

Louisville, Ky., April 25.—Officials of the union here predict that trade conditions will compel painting contractors to concede the $3 an hour increase asked by the workers. Those who have signed the agreement cannot supply experts to the men, and many of the strikers have gone into the contracting business themselves.

St. Thomas, Ont., April 25.—Painters and their employers in this city are deadlocked over the question of wages. The workers' old scale was 25 cents an hour. They demand 30 cents per hour for nine. Now they ask 30 cents, but the employers offer but 27 1-2 cents.

GUARDS WORKMEN'S LIVES.

Trenton, N. J., April 25.—Gov. Fielder has signed the bill regulating the employment of persons in compressed air. The bill was passed at the last session of the legislature. It provides that every employer carrying on compressed air work shall employ only persons licensed physicians, and if the maximum air pressure exceeds seven pounds above the normal shall employ one more registered nurses to act in case of accident or illness from the compressed air.

ATTACK ANTI-SCREEN LAW.

Cleveland, April 25.—A suit has been filed in the Federal Court in this city by the Cleveland Coal Company to test the constitutionality of the Green anti-screen law, passed at the last legislature. For a twenty years' contract with the United Mine Workers to end the practice of operators of mines paying their miners for the coal that did not pass through the screen. The screen was designed so that the screen was disposed of by the operators who paid nothing for this product. The practice has existed for many years, and recently secured the passage of a law that abolished the custom. The Cleveland Coal Company and the Big Four Rail and River Coal Company asks that the State Industrial Commission be restrained from investigating conditions in the mines in accordance with the provisions of the new act.

DON'T INCLUDE THE DONKEY.

San Francisco, April 25.—In issuing an injunction against striking culinary workers, Federal Judge Van Fleet declared "there is no such thing as legal picketing." The judge held that the injunction did not apply to the donkey used by the strikers in calling attention to their grievances. The strikers will now be asked to name a "picketing" which has appointed a committee for this purpose. The agitation carried on by workers here to prevent the entry in labor disputes has resulted in a rule by Presiding Judge Sturtevant that all writs and injunctions against labor unions will be issued by the Superior Courts of the county of San Francisco until an order is shown cause why a temporary restraining order should not be granted has first been issued.

FOREIGN COMMERCE GROWS.

Washington, April 25.—Both imports and exports were greater last month than in March, 1913, according to figures announced by the Federal Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Exports totaled $130,928,028, against $155,443,698. In March last year, 61 per cent of this being free of customs duties, as did 55 per cent in March, 1913. Domestic exports last month were $115,871,877, against $142,446,796 for March of last year. For the nine months ending with March of this year, exports totaled $1,397,727,813, against $1,581,043,944,183 in the corresponding period last year, and imports totaled $1,336,107,553, against $1,851,043,937 last year.

UNIONISTS ARE AMUSED.

Boston, April 25.—Trade unionists in this city are amused at the wide publicity given an invitation to an ex-president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad to become the active head of a new organization of railroad workers in this city. The unionists say much publicity has been given a small crowd of station agents who met here recently and who have since arranged for another meeting. "Good advertisers" is the comment of local organized workers, who point to the various railroad brotherhoods and A. F. of L. organizations that now admit all workers in these callings.

HOUSE LABOR GROUP SCORES

Washington, April 25.—Blocking what appeared to be an attempt to prohibit an investigation of infant mortality and dangerous occupations, the labor group in the House of Representatives won a decided and important victory when the appropriation for the Federal Children's Bureau was under consideration. An amendment proposed by Representative Johnson, of South Carolina, provided "that ths appropriation shall not be extended for investigation that the Public Health Service is required or authorized by law to make and are making." Representative Buchanan, of Illinois, a member of the labor group, resorted to every parliamentary trick to defeat this amendment, and repeatedly declared it would "defeat the efficiency of the Child Labor Bureau." On a vote this view was accepted and the cleverly worded amendment was rejected. Congressman Nolan, of California, member of the labor group, appealed for the children. He said: "The Children's Bureau, during the last two years at its disposal, has had a staff of fifteen persons. Its appropriation for salaries has been $25,000 per year. During the two years it has no moneys except two small allotments from departmental funds. One was $25,000 and the other for contingent expenses. Because of the small staff at the disposal of the bureau its investigation intended to eliminate conditions causing infant mortality, has been limited to the city of Johnstown, Pennsylvania." Labor Member Keating, of Colorado, termed present conditions "a crime against the people," and in urging a rejection of the committee's report, declared that $164,640, the amount asked for by the head of the bureau, Miss Lathrop, the Western Congressman said:

"Gentlemen may talk about extravagance as much as they like, but I am sure the people of this country are in favor of economy they are in favor of the right kind of economy. If this bureau had been rushed through this House, by unanimous consent, a bill appropriating $50,000 it is conceded by all that it would have made the appropriation $2,000,000 if the experts had told us that by spending that much such a sum they could save the lives of the boys of this country. I have voted for every such appropriation, and you would have voted for such an appropriation, Mr. Chairman, if you knew that this country would have approved of such an appropriation. If it is essential to protect the lives of the children of the country, much more important it is to protect the lives of the children of the country. The statistics show that each year 300,000 children die in this country before they attain the age of one year. And we are assured that fully one-half of these deaths are directly traceable to ignorance and lack of care."

Never before did the halls of Congress ring with such pleas for the little ones of the country. The committee's report, which favored only $25,640. By an emphatic vote the report was rejected, and the bureau was voted the amount it requested.

GOVERNOR SIGNS LABOR BILL.

Albany, April 25.—Gov. Glynn has signed a bill amending the labor law in relation to hours of labor in mercantile establishments. The bill provides that the hours during which children under sixteen years may work from fifty-four per week to forty-eight per week, and from nine to eight hours in any one day, and prohibits their employment between the hours of 7 p. m. and 8 a. m. instead of after 7. The bill further gives to cities of the second class the power to increase the hours over cities—in fact, it restricts the employment of female employes at night to the hours of one week and nine hours in any one day in all cities. Not only are the hours of labor reduced for children under sixteen, the time allowed employees for luncheon is extended from forty-five to sixty minutes unless the commissioner of labor shall permit a shorter time." When any employe is employed for more than five hours in the evening the bill provides that twenty minutes must be given for eating between 5 and 7 o'clock.

MONEY-MAKING SCHEME ENDS.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 25.—The State Public Service Commission does not favor giving electric utility charters to promoters for competitive purposes with established companies who will later buy out the latter, and in refusing favorable applications for two franchises of this character, the commission held that utility franchises should be granted only where a need of additional service, and comparatively little complaint, exists. If the commission finds that the service of a second company might be a doubtful utility. The commission held that competitive lines lower rates, the final result is liable to be the absorption of one by the other and the consequent loss of all at the expense of the warfare." It is also stated cases may arise where competition would be beneficial, and such will be considered on their merits.

RECOGNIZE SERVICE.

Louisville, Ky., April 25.—Because of their activity in connection with the passage of a workmen's compensation law by the state legislature, the Central Labor body arranged a banquet in honor of Secretary Schneider of the Building Trades council, Secretary Bogle of the State Federation of Labor, and Business Agent Kelly, of the Plumbers union, who were instrumental in the introduction of the bill. The banquet cost the sum of $2,250, and increases the maximum weekly indemnity from $15 to $20. The insurance fund, to be managed by a board composed of the attorney general, state treasurer, auditor and commissioner of agriculture. It only applies to employers of six or more persons and does not include those who are in agriculture. The new law becomes effective the first of next year.

UNIONISTS ARE DISCHARGED.

Richmond, Ind., April 25.—Several members of the Musicians union, employed by the Starr Piano company, quit their positions because a rather than forsake their organization. It is said that President Gennett, of the company, called the men into his office and told them they must either quit the union or resign. Most of the men refused to resign, and the president stated the company was "tired" of the trouble experienced in local theaters with union men, and that hereafter Mr. Gennett has taken this method to settle the differences.

SIGNS GRADE CROSSING BILL.

Trenton, N. J., April 25.—Gov. Fielder has signed the grade crossing bill, which compels every railroad within six months after the act becomes a law, to provide a protection for pedestrians and the traveling public at every public road or street crossing of its tracks at grade. The law will force the public utility commission to direct the railroads to protect every crossing at grade, no matter how remote it may be or how little used by the traveling public.

TRADE UNIONS ARE NATURAL

Declaring that the trade unionist movement is the natural result of the desire for industrial equality, Prof. Willard C. Fisher defended the organizations of workingmen at a banquet attended by insurance officials in Hartford, Conn. Prof. Fisher announced that he intended to speak seriously to the insurance men, and warned them that he would not attempt to add to the hilarity of the evening.

"I want to speak to you on the trades unions," he said. "I believe that there is a deal of misunderstanding on this subject. Perhaps this movement is one of the most important in history, because this is getting to be more and more, a democratically governed world. No monarch has ever been able to rule a nation solely. Cabinets and diets have always qualified absolutism. Yet in all the so-called democracies of ancient time you will find that the common people had little to say, and it was an extraordinarily modern times. But there came revolutions and upheavals, and they turned the world from monarchy or aristocracy into popular government. Not only does popular government consist still of kings, one must be taken for granted in America, but even in Asia and China, those ancient seats of absolutism, it is natural to find the theory at least, every man is entitled to civil liberty, equality before the law. Political liberty in the more advanced perhaps but the old theories of oligarchy are being abandoned, and no one recognizes the right of any class to govern another. But in the development of industrial conditions you will find the exact opposite.

"Prof. Arnold Rogers, of Oxford, once said that as England was extending her commerce there was little difference between the classes, and the lord was little better off in regard to wealth. But in about the nineteenth century the inequality began to make itself known. The upper class has risen enormously, increasing the difference between itself and the lower class. It may not be fair to take the very richest men for comparison, but Mr. Rockefeller testified recently that his income from the Standard Oil holdings was about $10,000,000 a year. That is just about 20,000 times as much as the average mechanic earns in a factory.

"You get in the papers from time to time instances of excessive extravagance in sending to the Sandwich Islands for polo ponies, and such things. Of course, I know that newspapers sometimes exaggerate. That is what the people want. But such statements can be taken as a pathetic contrast. According to them, then, you have a contrast. You have the people told of their rights, and at the same time denied equality. A contrast of that sort cannot continue indefinitely—there must be some sort of a reconciliation. Occasionally you hear some one say that the world has gone too far toward industrial equality, and yearning for the good old days, but the average sensible man recognizes that the movement cannot be turned back. The people need only assert their rights to control the world.

"I think that if you note the sharpness of the contrast, the inequality of the two societies, you will catch the meaning of many little agitations which are not understood in the greater movements of the world. Workmen's compensation act if you will, and the revision of the tax laws I must ask you to look on trade unionism as a natural result of the desire for industrial equality. All these matters of policy, of apprehension and so on, are details of their broader significance. The movement and its leaders should be judged by the same standards that we apply to any great movement. A great many eminent men have condemned it, but their criticism is applied too strict a standard of personal conduct, or through misunderstanding. I think it safe to say that the history of labor struggle has there been violence.

"Of course, when violence does occur, it gets into the papers. You are newspapers. I am not criticising them for it. It makes good copy. But I do attempt to call upon you to any judgment of the methods of the movement. Nothing is more ludicrous than the attempts that have been made to break the unions. Individuals have tried it, and the courts have invariably intervened in their behalf. Nothing could be more futile. Capital has provided against itself cannot stand. The world cannot continue to declare for liberty, the right of equality of right, and in practice deny it. There is a great work, and a great place in the world, for an organization that will reconcile this discrepancy. I have absolute confidence that this reconciliation must be made. It must be done either by the labor organization or by some body that will fulfill the same function."

POOR MAN'S FRIEND.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., would rather lose all the millions invested by his father and others in the Colorado coal fields than that the American wage earner be deprived of his right under the Constitution to work for whom he pleases. Now, isn't that beautiful as well as true? It is a glorious right it is to come in and take another workingman's job for less money? It is the sacred right of private contract. It is a holy right—that of the strike-breaker, who gets extra pay until the strike is broken and then, like Mikey, leaving the whipped striker to come back at the pay he struck to raise. And, of course, Rockefeller, Jr., is concerned only with the scab workingman's right to work. He is not concerned at all about his dividends, which can be kept up by keeping wages down. What clammy hypocrites those Rockefellers are, pietists and penny-pinchers!—Reedy's Mirror.

FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

That the City of Detroit pays annually $4,000 for the education of crippled children that must otherwise remain in ignorance is a fact not known even to many residents of that city. Hacks are provided at city expense in which the children may ride to and from school. In the Clinton street school several rooms are set aside for the education of these children apart from their more robust fellows. At present thirty-eight children are enrolled there. This does not include those in whom no improvement for any the right of equality of right, and in practice deny it. There is a great work, and a great place in the world, for an organization that will reconcile this discrepancy. I have absolute confidence that this reconciliation must be made. It must be done either by the labor organization or by some body that will fulfill the same function.

DEPLORE CASTE

The principal of one of the oldest, largest and most amply endowed of the New England preparatory schools has just called the attention of its alumni to the fact that sons of professional and business men with moderate incomes, in short youth coming from what, for lack of a better name, is called "the middle class," are flocking to the school as formerly. Attendants are now mainly those who come from homes of extreme wealth, or are those who have been trained to work and who continue working while pursuing their studies, thus earning their education. No explanation of this phenomenon was given by this educator nor was any accounting made for the missing students. But any one conversant with facts knows that on no other group has increased cost of living laid so gripping a hand as upon persons engaged in callings that lack defensive power through combined action. Forced, therefore, to new economies, many an alumnus of an ancient and privately endowed school or college has sent his son to the public high school and to the state university. And he does with regret that has been modified as the merits of the less costly and absolutely democratic institution have become known to both student and parent.

To use the word "class" in connection with the American way of life in the United States is repellent to an idealist, and it seems to be unfortunate that the social machine like a fixed, legal and caste interpretation. But for purposes of convenience, expressed in a loose way, the term "middle class" has come to stand for those groups of moderates which constitute the balance between the citizens in a nation—friends of good causes and promoters of thrift, equity, and intelligence. If it is now considered a mark of genius in novelists, dramatists, and civic agitators to speak slightingly of people who try to be respectable, pay their debts, remain loyal to marriage vows, and exercise wisdom and thrift, there is, we feel, a saving grace of sense in the people of the United States which is likely to keep them loyal to political, domestic, and religious ideals of founders of the nation, who were neither plutocrats nor proletarians.

How to keep the body politic and the vast army of youth in schools and colleges from tolerating formal caste distinctions is a problem that sensible and sensitive statesmen and educators are facing and meeting. Of course solution begins only after the facts are recognized and frankly faced.—Phillips Academy Bulletin.

GOOD AT LONG RANGE.

Almost all the big newspapers in the United States are agreed that a land tax that would break up the haciendas would be the best means of establishing liberty, prosperity, and peace in Mexico. They all can see that the land-hold out of use by the big monopolists, and untaxed, makes heavier the burden of the poor, says Reedy's Mirror. They all can see that the freeing of land to the workers' use is the most needed fundamental reform in Mexico. But they can't see the need of a land value tax in this country, in the face of concentrating land ownership on the one hand and the increase of tenant farmers on the other. The New York Times comes out strong for a land tax in Mexico, but it is fighting maniacally to defeat a measure to decrease the tax on improvements to one-half the land tax in New York. The Times just hates the Mexican haciendados, but it dearly loves the Gothamite landlord.

"THE GANG"

The principal of a school in one of the "toughest" slums in New York, after years of observation, has come to the conclusion that "gangs" are to blame for the "boy spirit." If gangs and the gang spirit have come to be associated with crime and blackmail and murder, it is because the pernicious habits of the boys have not been watched over and have not been directed into proper channels.

The principal proceeded to "harness" that gang spirit among the children in his particular district, to enlist them in school affairs and introduced an honor system among the boys. The result is that the boys are loyal to each other, used to "sneak out" in the evening from the alleys with the avowed intent of "beating" the police, breaking windows, stealing, and creating as much roughness as possible, the same boys now cooperate in good fellowship with the natural inclination to harm no one and to get as much fun out of life as possible. Gang loyalty is a causing damage to the neighborhood and being in perpetual fear of the coppers in consequence.

The boy gangs in this particular district were "criminal gangs" only a few years ago. Now they are "good gangs" now. Neglect in the past has caused the youngsters to look up to the gang leaders as heroes. And criminals of the district as the ideals after which to model their own lives. The direction of the gang spirit by a wise hand and understanding eye has resulted in the boys now adopting as their ideals men who are leaders not in the underworld circles, but in the higher civic spheres of the community. The school-city conducted by the boys under the direction of this particular school principal, has a police force of its own, a district attorney, judges, and a sheriff. It holds elections for various offices. Instead of imitating corporations, trusts, syndicates, and corporations. Capital is thoroughly organized, and labor must be unionized if it wants an equitable remuneration of the value of its work. The state, and a living wage whereby the working men can maintain themselves and their families in comfort under normal circumstances, surrounded with not only the necessities of life, but also with some of life's comforts.

It is a great individualism when every man was for himself, wherein might was right, and no brotherly love was shown toward the weak, the halt, and the lame and the blind. It was the time when there was no concern to another, and each man sold his labor like any other commodity in the market for whatever wage he could get. It has passed. That era of individualism of the sixteenth century succeeded the guilds of the Middle Ages, which were similar to our labor unions of the century ago. Labor unions today are not of recent date, but may be traced back to the tenth century. Apprentices, journeymen, and employers were organized into guilds of their own crafts.

"The organization of the wage-earners into labor unions dates to the beginning of the nineteenth century, but the most active life of unionism took place about half a century ago. This is called the flowering period of the American organization of labor. After the liberation of the slaves, the laboring masses of this country demanded better conditions and clamored for industrial freedom, better wages, shorter hours, and a living wage whereby they might be able to maintain themselves and their families in a comfortable manner in keeping with American citizens. They admitted that the capitalists should have a just profit on the money invested in their plants, but the workingmen objected to receiving the crumbs that fell from the tables of the wealthy capitalists. The unions also advocated industrial reform to better the condition of the wage-earners, mentally, morally, and economically, by a more equitable distribution of wealth among the whole community by legal means and not by revolution and anarchy.

"The wage-earners have always tried to require capital a decent livelihood both for themselves and their families. The unions are protecting the men from unjust and unnecessary and inefficient cause, and forced into involuntary idleness and deprived of the wages on which they and their families depend. Provision is made by the unions for the sick and those during the closed or winter months when outdoor work is suspended. Labor unions have forced the legislatures of over ten states to pass laws which provide for benefits the wage-earners in case of accidents while at their work, and it provide for a pension fund which also benefits the wage-earners in case of accidents while at their work, and it provides for a pension fund which also benefits the old-age pension will which will close the almshouses and poorhouses. A pension will be provided for mothers whose husbands have abandoned them or have been taken away from them by death, and each child will receive the stipulated pension until it is able to provide for itself. Industrial insurance, the diminution and prevention of occupational diseases, the improvement of sanitary conditions, the installation of safety appliances in workshops, the profit-sharing plan, and the prevention of the accumulation of unwieldly wealth by graduated income and land inheritance taxes will be established."

MANUFACTURERS IN THEIR TRUE COLORS

In one of the gaudiest rooms of the Bellevue-Stratford, furnished after the style of Louis XIV, about a hundred exploiters of labor were recently seated to discuss the framing of a workingmen's compensation bill which would be most favorable to their own purposes.

The newspapers carried a part of the story.

They did not dare to print the whole truth about it. For it would have been flying in the face of Special Privilege to tell the people the real attitude of those manufacturers, employers of thousands of workingmen, upon the compensation bill.

For instance, it would have been gross treason to print this speech by the fat and iron-tested David M. Kirk, president of the $2,000,000 Crescent Cement company, from out Pittsburgh way, an employer of 500 workers:

"This state commission seems to think that it can dictate to we manufacturers as to what kind of a compensation bill we will accept. We manufacturers are the real money interests of this country. We are the employers of labor. We are the source of employment. And are we to be told by a commission that we, in reality the servant of the manufacturers, that 'we don't like you,' and that 'we will take charge of you?' I guess not. Let's have it out right now. I defy any member of the commission. What have we come to, that anybody should have the audacity to propose that our property should be taken from us, that our money should be taken unlawfully?"

This expression in public of the attitude of the manufacturers is a measure that would insure to workingmen compensation when they are hurt, or compensation to their families if they are killed, was too much even for the chairman of the meeting, who mildly informed Mr. Kirk that he shouldn't confine his remarks to the provisions of the compensation measure.

Whereupon Kirk, irritated that he should be interrupted in the course of such a patriotic appeal to the sentiments of real Americans, said:

"I maintain that I was speaking on the subject. Whatever tends to add to our money is lawless and certainly included in the subject of this meeting. But I will bide by the decision."

Kirk sat down. He had expressed the feeling of a great many, if not a majority, of those manufacturers and big employers.

Of course, they are opposed to compensating poor workmen hurt while piling up dollars for them. That was the real reason of the meeting in the Bellevue-Stratford. It was a plot to hatch a compensation bill that will be declared unconstitutional by the courts after it is passed by the legislature, and then, of course, there will be no compensation law whatever.

But there were several men present at the conference whose purpose was far from that of the manufacturers.

One of these men is David A. Reed, chairman of the state industrial accidents commission, so hotly denounced by the exploiter, Kirk.

Reed declared that the bill, as proposed by the manufacturers, is unconstitutional, and he hurled a challenge at the manufacturers to prove that it was otherwise.

Furthermore, Reed offered to submit the bill to constitutional authorities, and declared that if it was pronounced within the constitution he personally would pay for the opinion.

The commission of which Reed is the chairman has a bill that he believes is constitutional. And he will submit this bill to the same authorities and pay them their fees if they say it is not.

Reed is one of the few men of the part of the manufacturers that they wanted a compensation bill, and that they believed was designed to be one of occupational disease when injured, but they all had a BUT.

Some of them had the effrontery to suggest that under a bill which provides that manufacturers pay insurance to protect workingmen. And to ask them themselves be made to pay part of the insurance.

Thomas J. Connelly, of the National Silk Dyeing company, which employs several thousand hands in several plants, rolled over in his chair when he should confine his remarks to the provisions of the compensation measure.

Kirk reminded Reed that he succeeded in keeping it out of all of them except this one.—Philadelphia News-Post.

STUDYING THE CRIMINAL

Our conception of the criminal is changing. When a man, and especially a young man, is first officially arraigned before the bar where his future, his entire life, hangs in the balance, we hesitate. Instead of accepting the evidence of guilt without question and meting out punishment accordingly, we have learned to look for causes. We are beginning to proceed upon the theory that no man would willingly thrust a knife into his own back and that if what committing a crime and being sent to jail or the gallows is a man's "free will" choice before, why did he do it? Was he misled by the improper surroundings? Was it want and poverty that forced him into criminal ways? Or was it, perhaps, natural disadvantages? Is he a defective? Is he suffering from injury or disease which makes him irresponsible, and consequently subject for treatment in a sanitarium, or insane asylum instead of the reformatory, the prison, or the gallows?

In this new attitude toward the criminal we are not alone. Most of the advanced nations of the world adopted it. The old theory that the criminal is a special type, is of a race apart, has given way before scientific research. Environment — bad environment — poverty, injurious diseases are coming to be accepted pretty widely as the chief sources of crime. This often too great emphasis has been placed on heredity and from many quarters. Among those disapproving of an overstraining of the environment theory and neglecting heredity and other influences entirely is the noted Italian student of the criminal, Baron Raffaele Carofalo, whose monumental work on "Criminology" has just been published in English.

Nevertheless, this view is gaining ground and, even according to Baron Carofalo, has already done much good for it has acted as a check on the tendency to impose indeterminate sentences and the short of sentences which are characterised as a "leap in the dark" and harm both the criminal and society.

In furtherance of this more rational attitude toward the criminal is now pending before the bill being introduced in Congress calling upon the Department of Justice establish a bureau "for the study of the abnormal classes" and for the "collection of sociological pathological data, particularly as to the causes of crime, the defective classes, and the criminal, pauper, and institutions for the criminal, pauper, and defective classes."

The good this will do good service. It will be a mistake, however, to leave the study of criminals to the Federal government. The matter is such a Federal bureau should be expected to do is to act as a central clearing house. These should be studied not after sentence has been passed upon him and he has been committed to the institution, but at the time he is tried. The result of such study should determine his sentence.

Chicago is ahead of the rest. It has established a psychopathic laboratory, which will serve as an auxiliary to the municipal Court. Every criminal brought by the youthful criminal, will be taken to this laboratory and his physical and mental condition will be thoroughly looked into before he is placed on trial. If the boy is found to be defective, "moron," this finding will put an entirely different construction upon his case. Chicago's psychopathic laboratory is the first in the United States, but it should not be the last. Every community should study its own criminals.—Chicago Tribune.

A PLEA FOR DISCIPLINE

The biggest fellow in our International Union can do no injustice to their associates, members of the organization who can and do sink personal differences and ambition in order that their local unions may thrive and prosper. Men who ruthlessly destroy and sacrifice everything which confronts them in their mad fight for supremacy are dangerous to themselves and the institution which they are connected with. The general welfare of our organization is of greater position than the elevation of one or several men to high position; and those of our members who lack appreciation of this pertinent fact fail to absorb the magnificent lesson taught in our International Union obligation.

Ambitious men with a predominant selfish trait have caused numberless disasters in trade unions and will continue to create discord and havoc wherever they are permitted to run amuck. It is the duty of every member of our International to study their own welfare and bring best to advance it; it is undoubtedly advantageous to them to act in concert, for by so doing they will the better protect themselves from the unscrupulous manipulator whose one and only thought is personal aggrandizement.

Members of our unions should be imitators to the extent of following the example of stockholders of great commercial enterprises, who care nothing about the aspirations or desires of those who seek high office; they are interested only in electing as managers of such enterprises men with experience and whom they feel confident will administer the affairs of that company with judgment, discretion and an eye single to the advancement of the stockholders' interests. Our local unions are business institutions on the same line as those of the International Union; neither can afford to be used in any way, shape or form as a level for the gratification of one or more members at the expense of the interests of the whole. A strong, healthy, honest ambition, that will prompt the member seeking for preferment for the good of the organization is easily distinguished from the baser kind; the intelligent members need no chart to direct them in choosing, but intelligence does not always remain awake, more's the pity, for it is when intelligence slumbers that do his ambitious are ceaselessly working their charm on the thoughtless who accept fervidness of expression as genuine friendship and unstinted devotion to the interests of all.

Exercise the same care and caution in choosing your management, which in this instance means your union officials, as is displayed by business institutions generally by so doing you may err occasionally, but in the long run you will benefit by your intelligent discrimination. Organization can not help but prosper; keep in mind this one plenian fact: If you lack the brains and experience to lead your fellow, catch step in the ranks and stay where your ability qualifies you to be a follower.—Fraternally yours, Jere L. Sullivan, in Miner and Server.

WHAT TRADE UNIONS HAVE DONE

The next time some one asks you, "What have your unions done," don't pity his ignorance, but take the uninformed gentleman by hand and endeavor in a kindly way the greatest force for good that the world's workers have ever known.

Compare the long work day of thirty years ago to that of today. Explain to him how that at the beginning of the union labor movement all of the different branches of labor was working from twelve to sixteen hours per day, and that now the eight-hour day is in force in all of the principal callings, and that many of them are discussing the seven-hour day that they may refer to a greater degree the good things of life.

If the unions' successful efforts in reducing the day's work are not sufficient excuse for our existence, show your friend how the workers' agitation secured our free school system and its free school books. How we have raised wages and established a vast chain of benefits that we have forced employers to safeguard life and limb. How shop conditions are bettered by workers banding together and protecting from blacklisting the fellow who has gone to the front.

Show him how labor unions spend their dollars to secure labor laws that benefit union and nonunion men alike. Explain him how union labor was the first to take up the fight for legislation against child labor and sweating systems.

Tell him that all of these gains have been made in the last fifty years. Impress upon him the necessity of organized right to organize. Existing laws at that time declared that three workers gathered together in one strong ceased to be conspiracy. But despite these obstacles men and women "they formed unions, secret and established labor papers. Slowly but surely they one at a time toppled over old ideas, maintained by lawmakers, professors, economists, and students. Upward they have climbed out of slavery and conditions of 3,000,000 strong, with a representative in the President's Cabinet and with experience and stalwarts proud to acknowledge that they carry union cards.

Tell your nonunion friend some of these things the next time he asks what our movement has ever done. An intelligent answer might make him one of us.—Typographical Journal.

KEEP UP STANDARDS

The American Federation of Labor has again gone on record as opposing unrestricted immigration. For years the A. F. of L. has performed a great public duty.

This country must be flooded with a horde of people who are sure to result from its invasion by peoples who are alien to its institutions and its spirit.

Besides the evil effect on the political life of the nation that is bound to ensue from the influx of these ignorant masses, the industrial there lies the great danger of a lowering of the American standard of living by the forcing down of the wages of our working people that has very serious consequences.

Already the injury in some lines of industry has been great and it will become greater unless there be some restriction placed on immigration.

A strong plea must be made for an immigration law that will protect American standards. It is to this end that the American Federation of Labor has committed itself to an undeviating policy.—San Antonio Weekly Dispatch.

JAIL SYSTEM A FAILURE

Mayor Robbins has now been police judge for about four months, yet in that brief time has learned, as has every man who has looked at our penal system with open eyes, that the jail method of treating criminals is a failure. "It will do no good, under present conditions, to shut up in jail," said the mayor in a Palladium reporter recently concerning a certain police court character. "Why shouldn't it do any good? It would rob his family of its bread-winner, if he has one, and punish them. Then it would disgrace him in the eyes of the community. It would shut him up by himself, and thus encourage his worthlessness. It would enforce the law. It would give the jailer something to do. It would give the tax payer something to pay."

But Mayor Robbins doesn't believe this would "do any good."

"Then what do you need?

There isn't a more absurd failure in our whole system than our methods of dealing with crime.

We act on the assumption that the aim of punishment is to make the criminal "suffer." We give him an eye for an eye. He hits us — we strike him.

This is a creed for savages and cannibals!

It defeats itself and causes more crime than it cures. It is foolish, wasteful, useless, extravagant.

There aren't any institutions in our society today turning out more professional criminals than our workhouses and penitentiaries. They are the "schools" of crime where, at the people's expense, raw amateurs are taught the arts of the trade.

This is not to advocate the turning loose of the criminal to prey on society. It is not to be taken by sentimental philosophers and tear-stained missives. It is not mawkishly to slobber over him. That is all bosh, but sentimentality.

It is to advocate that we turn our energies to preventing crime. Now, we do like everything else, has its causes. Let us remove those causes.

Why can't we here in Richmond discover the conditions that make crime? And why can't we stop it instead of feebly punishing it? Why can't we have intelligence on the moral misfits who, nine cases out of ten, didn't have a fair start in life?—The Richmond (Ind.) Palladium and Sun-Telegram.

WILL EMPLOY UNION LABOR.

Chicago, April 25.—Officers of the International Broom Makers' Union of Labor union have signed an agreement with the Chicago Broom company for a period of ten years. During the past twenty-one years the firm had a contract with this city and employed the inmates of the Chicago House of Correction in the manufacture of brooms. Through the efforts of the Chicago Federation of Labor the contract system in this prison was abolished and the firm will hereafter employ members of organized labor.

THE SINCERE MAN.

Only in a world of sincere men is safety possible—and life worth, in the long run, it is as good as certain. For observe one thing, a thing too often left out of view, or rather altogether out of sight of in this controversy. That it is not necessary a man should himself have discovered the truth he is to believe in, and to sincerely to believe in. A great man, we said, was always one who had the right condition of him. But a man need not be great in order to be sincere; that is not the necessity of nature and all time, but only of certain corrupt unfortunate epochs of time. A man can believe, and make his own, in the most genuine way, what he has received from another—and with boundless gratitude to that other! The merit of originality is not novelty: it is sincerity.—Thomas Carlyle.

CLERGYMAN URGES WORKERS TO UNITE

One of the principal speakers at Olyphant, Penn., on the occasion of the miners' observance of the eight-hour day, secured at the Scranton mass meeting was Rev. Fr. Murphy, who said in part:

"I have been invited by your committee to address you on the necessity of unionism in this complicated age of trusts, syndicates, and corporations. Capital is thoroughly organized, and labor must be unionized if it wants an equitable remuneration of the value of its work. The state, and a living wage whereby the working men can maintain themselves and their families in comfort under normal circumstances, surrounded with not only the necessities of life, but also with some of life's comforts.

"It is a great individualism when every man was for himself, wherein might was right, and no brotherly love was shown toward the weak, the halt, and the lame and the blind. It was the time when there was no concern to another, and each man sold his labor like any other commodity in the market for whatever wage he could get. It has passed. That era of individualism of the sixteenth century succeeded the guilds of the Middle Ages, which were similar to our labor unions of the century ago. Labor unions today are not of recent date, but may be traced back to the tenth century. Apprentices, journeymen, and employers were organized into guilds of their own crafts.

"The organization of the wage-earners into labor unions dates to the beginning of the nineteenth century, but the most active life of unionism took place about half a century ago. This is called the flowering period of the American organization of labor. After the liberation of the slaves, the laboring masses of this country demanded better conditions and clamored for industrial freedom, better wages, shorter hours, and a living wage whereby they might be able to maintain

ABANDON NEW-FANGLED "EFFICIENCY" TEST

Efficiency tactics undertaken six months ago at the Harrisburg Foundry and Machine Works have been abandoned, it is said, by C. D. Osborne, of Philadelphia, who has had charge of the work as an efficiency expert, since he took up the demonstration.

The efficiency idea was advanced a few years ago and taken up by a number of industries, with varying results. According to the theory, the average workman does not produce all the work of which he is capable, but loses much time in useless movements while doing a job, and also does not care to speed up to the limit of his capacity. The plan includes a readjustment of general producing plans in most shops so as to conserve the time required to transfer operations from one department to another or from one workman to another. In some plants whole processes have been revised with the result of marked increase in the output and a saving in cost by the conservation of time.

As applied to the individual the efficiency tactics aim to standardize his productive capacity, and this is done by watching his job, noting how long it takes and how short a time it could take. The efficiency engineer watches his man, notes his movements and then does some figuring, by which a certain length of time is assigned as the proper one for the completion of the work. The efficiency engineer strives to eliminate all useless motions in completing the task.

For instance, if a man is feeding a machine, and after reaching for his material and placing it in the machine he straightens up before starting the machine, the efficiency expert will point out that he has lost so many minutes per hour by not eliminating the wasted motion of drawing the object toward him instead of feeding it with one sweeping motion directly into the machine. In the study of the motions of workmen in this manner much time has been made by experts and much time has been spent in devising ways to shorten the time required for each operation and hence increases production.

Exponents of the system declare that it makes for greater ease in executing work as well as making the workman a gainer financially. At the Harrisburg Foundry and Machine Works when the demonstration was started some time ago it was said by "piece" workers that it would hurt production, and it is said by the management that the time thus assigned was a wide and liberal one. The workman who completed his task ahead of time received a bonus or percentage of one-half of the amount of wages that he saved by the time saved.

When the efficiency idea was first promulgated it met with opposition from the ranks of organized labor, Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, declared against it on the ground that the tendency was to destroy all initiative and independence in the workman and convert him into a mere machine. He asserted that America's industrial supremacy was due to the fact that her workmen were free to use their own individualities and characters into their work. In the end, he pointed out, industry would suffer, because much of the improved methods of work and new ideas came from workmen who were doing the job according to their own ideas.

Such opinion appears to have been shared by men at the Harrisburg Foundry and Machine Works. They did not like to have an outsider stand over them with a stop-watch and tell them that such and such movements were useless and fix a time in which the work was to be finished. The result is that there is rejoicing in the ranks of the employes over the recent order revoking the premium system of wages and restoring the former system of day wages.

The efficiency system required an elaborate card index system, all of which has been dispensed with.—Harrisburg (Pa.) Telegram.

FAILURE OF CHARITY

Chicago's municipal store, which was going to revolutionize the way of life at no cost to people who could show that they needed such a privilege of cheap meat, as the result of failure. It did only a few dollars' business a day, and there was apparently no demand for it. Of course, there is no such demand. Dispensing shreds of self-respect as a world by individuals who are ashamed to beg cash are not subjects of charity. They may need, but they will not ask. Charity is and has been the most elaborate economic condition of the submerged stratum. Justice is what people need. The man who earns money, but not enough of it to live, wants better wages; not the privilege of buying for less than cost. The charity that assumes to close up a gap that justice and the square deal have left open is hateful to its beneficiaries and can never do more than encourage pauperism.—Washington Times.

ONE KIND OF "PATRIOTISM"

Seattle, Wash., April 25.—"The only way we can have peace is to have no unions. You must say to the public, 'We have been asked to arbitrate the liberties of Americans and we won't do it,'" declared J. V. Patterson, prominent union opponent, and leading member of the Employers' Association, as he snapped his finger in the face of Mayor Gill's conciliation committee, who was trying to adjust the teamsters' strike. Mr. Patterson while with rage, shouted "Arbitrate? What is there to arbitrate? Gentlemen, there is nothing to do but demand that the police department do its duty in rounding up and jailing these criminals over the road. Supposing wages are low? Supposing conditions are rotten? What have the police to do with it, I'd like to know. I'd put these criminals out of business. I'd put them where they would stay good. The whole thing is the outrageous dominance of bold, bad men against the meekness of other men who are fools." Mr. Patterson was followed by another of his colleagues, vice president of the Employers' Association, who said: "It is unfair to attempt to make a settlement of something that does not concern a settlement. It is our purpose to maintain the 'open shop' and will not compromise. The employers don't recognize the men on the street and will not recognize a settlement that has anything to do with them."

The strike has been on for several weeks, and was caused by a demand for better conditions by the teamsters. They have offered to arbitrate, but city officials who are endeavoring to settle the difficulty, charge anti-union influences are making it impossible for the teaming contractors to meet the strikers. Union officials have submitted proof to show that no violence was resorted to until the Employers' Association took a hand in the difficulty and began directing affairs for the teaming employers.

HIGHER WAGES FOR TAILORS.

Zanesville, Ohio., April 25.—A thorough organization of tailors in this city resulted in a signed agreement with merchant tailors that call for an increase of 25 cents per garment, to be paid on a three-piece suit. Several of the employers refused the request, but a strike from Saturday till Monday changed their minds. The tailors were preparing to show to the public that they had been the wage standard for eight years, although the price of suits had increased during that time. Several other organizations are expected to get higher rates. The carpenters have submitted their demands, which will go in effect the first of May.

TIMES CHANGE FOR PAINTERS.

Duluth, April 26.—The Painters' union is winning its strike for union conditions. At this writing, out of 25 shops originally involved the union reports signed agreements with 13 firms and satisfactory verbal agreements with seven others. It is noticed that the employing painters are not receiving the support from business interests that was given them during their lockout of seven years ago when they forced their employes to accept non-union conditions. This decision has demonstrated the industry and is an effective notion to citizens who can now see the difference between union and non-union conditions. It is this sentiment that is aiding the painters in regaining lost ground. Their effort to better conditions is being supported even by non-unionists, who are accepting the organized workers' claim that painters should have a voice in creating the conditions under which they labor.

LABOR UNIONS NOT TRUSTS

The inhibition inserted in the sundry civil appropriation bill by the Federal Senate against the use of the appropriations for prosecuting labor unions or farmers' organizations is a perfect "jumper" indicating whether the principle be defended at all angles or not. Because labor and farmers' unions on the one hand and the so-called "trust" on the other there is no identity whatever. The object of the "trust" is to combine or to consolidate special privileges created in detail by law. They ought not to be created by law at all, but as they are created and had as they are when operating separately they are worse when consolidated, and the more decree corresponding to that of the consolidation. To be sure, some business consolidations without special privileges are also called "trusts," but if there be any such they are in violation of the objectionable, and could properly be excluded along with labor, and could properly be exempt from prosecution together with labor and farmers' unions. These unions have no special privileges. Every man's unexpended labor is his own, to bargain about in detail or through organization as he pleases. The same is true of farmers' products. To deny the right of such bargaining through voluntary organization is as reprehensible as to deny individual bargaining. It is far more unjust, so long as we legalize special privileges which put laborers and farmers at a tremendous disadvantage in their bargaining.

The attempt to identify those defensive and unprivileged organizations with aggressive and highly privileged "trusts" is either no reason behind it. When it isn't honest, it is pedagogically bookish; when it isn't bookish, the probabilities are that it isn't honest.—Louis Post, in The Public.

BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR "MULTIPLE USES"

The wider use of the school plant so as to make it of a social as well as an educational center and to open it to old as well as to young is emphasizing the need of planning a school so as to adapt it in a way that will fit it to all the needs of the community. In a recent address, Mr. Dwight H. Perkins, a Chicago architect who is interested himself in this problem, said that school property should be adapted to the needs of people "from six to sixty." Since 1894 Mr. Perkins has been planning school buildings with the idea of "multiple uses" always in mind. Perhaps the best illustration of what he means when he speaks of "multiple uses" is found in the Lindblom high school at Evanston, Ill., where not long ago 250 people of the community gathered to celebrate the completion of an exceptionally well-planned school. An interesting part of this school is the assembly hall and the kindergarten room. When the assembly room proves to be a stage that will accommodate 200 actors, the assembly becomes the auditorium. When they want a motion picture show they turn the chairs around and the kindergarten room becomes the gallery. The stage at the same time serves as a picture safeties. When the curtains shut these off from the assembly hall, that room is fitted for a gymnasium. That the people appreciate this building and the "multiple uses" to which it may be adapted, is vouched for by the fact that their immediately began to cut out a schedule to make use of the building every night in the week for the present year. On another page of this magazine is an article by Mr. Perkins in which he explains the various uses to which a school building may be put, together with several plans and photographs to give an idea of what has already been accomplished in this matter of comprehensive planning. The important point that Mr. Perkins has proved out in the ten years that he has devoted especially to this subject is that it does not cost any more to build a school like those in Evanston, which everybody in the neighborhood can use, than it does to build a dark, cold school for the benefit of the children alone. We feel that this article may well be read by school boards, city officers, and parents with profit.—La Follette's Weekly.

"FIRED" AS $4 A WEEK MAN

Barratt O'Hara, lieutenant governor of Illinois and chairman of the Illinois vice commission, doesn't know exactly how much he is worth as a workman. He seems convinced that his value as a toiler with his hands is not high. It is not long ago, however, he has discovered that his wife is worth at least $5 a week as a worker.

Mr. O'Hara arrived in Cleveland today to confer with Mayor Newton D. Baker, who is interested in minimum wage legislation. While discussing his errand here Mr. O'Hara confessed the humiliating discovery of his worth as a workman.

Mr. O'Hara and his wife obtained jobs in Bridgeport, Conn., under assumed names.

"As I was interested in the minimum wage scale," Mr. O'Hara said, "I decided to work for a week in a cotton factory in Bridgeport. I donned a blue flannel shirt and corduroy trousers, and my wife cogged herself out in cheap clothes and we went to the city together, separating after we got there.

"I hustled around to the corset factory, while my wife went to a knitting mill and asked for work. She found that there was nothing doing, but pleaded that I was starving and needed money to buy food. I was finally given a job in the shipping department at $4 a week. I also was assigned the task of carrying a heavy mail sack to the rooms where the girls were employed. I managed to find lodging for 15 cents a day and a cafe that I could get meals for 15 cents.

"My work was hard. I had to handle heavy packing boxes and at the end of the day I was all in. Finally, on the third day, the foreman came to me with my money and beat it! I started to ask him why, but he was a big man, and I considered it best to follow his instructions without question.

"The next day I waited around the factory and hoped to secure a husky laborer had got my job. My vocational training and I knew how to handle boxes. She had half a dozen offers of marriage in her three-day experience and the promise of a raise in pay. I have an idea what my maximum worth is as a laborer, but my minimum worth is still a matter of conjecture."—Chicago Tribune.

OHIO'S LIABILITY RATES TO BE REDUCED

Announcement was made by the Ohio State Industrial Commission that a heavy reduction of premium rates which employers are compelled to pay into the state compensation fund for the protection of injured workmen will be announced within two months to be effective July 1.

After that date employers not only will have to pay lower premiums, but they will be entitled to rebates on the premiums paid at the higher rate.

The rebate will extend back to the time the employer paid his first premiums, even under the old voluntary compensation law. It will be returned to him in cash to the employer or credited to future premiums.

This will be the third reduction in rates since the compensation law has been in force.

Unlike the two former ones, which were uniform in all classes of employment, the proposed reduction will be according to the classes, based upon the liability which the class has incurred and the percentage of reduction also will be based upon the liability. This system places a penalty on carelessness. The new furnishes the best protection and safeguards to its employes will receive the greater percentage of reduction and consequently will pay less than the class which disregards safety law appliances.

Rates in some of the industries are said to be about as low as in the judgment of the commission is permissible to guarantee absolute protection to workmen. The reduction in these classes will be slight and some may not be changed. The rates for coal mines are said to be about at rock bottom. The hazard is pronounced. Mines probably contribute a greater proportion of accidents and fatalities than any other industry. The probability of a large catastrophe at any time, resulting in a number of fatalities, may cause a large drain on the funds in the state fund. For this reason the commission probably will allow the present rates to stand.

An exhaustive study of the liability upon each class is being made by the commission. Classes are to be subdivided and the liability of each subdivision ascertained for the purpose of computing rates. The single rate of any industry will be the basis for the variations from the rates necessary on each subdivision.

One important thing which the commission will determine from the study of the liability of the various classes is finding the greatest number in the total on any industry. For example, they will be able to ascertain how the commission attributes the greatest number of injuries to the eye, fingers, etc. Also the work in each class which contributes the greatest proportion of such accidents will be determined.

This information will be of much benefit to employers, as they then will be able to establish systems of safeguards that will lessen the number of accidents.

That the state is furnishing compensation to injured workmen at the same time furnishing protection to employers at a less cost than many employers have been paying for insurance their own compensation is beginning to be realized by them. Several concerns have had arranged to administer their own compensations have given it up and applied for insurance in the state fund. Some found that the premiums paid for bonds which must be furnished the state was as great as their total premiums to the state fund would have been. In addition, they were compelled to pay compensation to a liability insurance company which had assumed the risk.—Ohio State Journal.

'REASONS' FOR CHILD LABOR

Boston, April 25.—Hearings are being held on several bills now pending in the state legislature to either amend the child labor law or provide a test that will compel the employment of children fourteen years of age in cases where a doctor certifies "that the employment is not injurious to them." They would also establish again at the age of fifteen and at the age of sixteen. Much stress is laid on the educational and physical test, which, its advocates claim, would keep children off the street. In urging a modification of the present law, Representative Bagshaw is quoted in a speech before the committee as offering this "reason" why children should work:

"There are a great many families in Fall River with from five to seven children. The father goes to work in a mill earning from $10 to $12 and oftentimes his wife is also forced to work for the support of the family. If the family is earning enough by allowing the older boys to work, the younger children should be allowed to go to school, but not under the present condition of the child labor law. I am against the use of the schools because the family cannot afford it. The mother is taken out of her home to work in the mill, the children left to themselves. As a result of this the children lose the influence of the home. Mr. Bagshaw referred to a conversation he had with a manufacturer, who declared that children were filling their time on the streets. He said that this manufacturer's wife ran a cotton yarn mill and that the work was particularly adapted to children. When the child labor law was passed these children had to be turned out. Men and women consolidated, and the experience corresponding to that of the consolidation. To be sure, some business consolidations without special privileges are also called 'trusts,' but if there be any such they are in violation of the objectionable, and could properly be excluded along with labor, and could properly be exempt from prosecution together with labor and farmers' unions. These unions have no special privileges. Every man's unexpended labor is his own, to bargain about in detail or through organization as he pleases. The same is true of farmers' products. To deny the right of such bargaining through voluntary organization is as reprehensible as to deny individual bargaining. It is far more unjust, so long as we legalize special privileges which put laborers and farmers at a tremendous disadvantage in their bargaining.

"The attempt to identify those defensive and unprivileged organizations with aggressive and highly privileged 'trusts' is either no reason behind it. When it isn't honest, it is pedagogically bookish; when it isn't bookish, the probabilities are that it isn't honest.—Louis Post, in The Public.

OUR OWN TROUBLES

Nobody is willing to admit his own shortcomings. It is always the other fellow's fault. To admit that we are wrong is the hardest thing in the world, because most people are wrong. It is the easiest thing for the broad minded, because they are usually right. But the broad minded are few. The proverbial shopkeeper of a famous prison noticed a strange peculiarity among the inmates of the institution. They were all sure these would admit that he deserved the death penalty. Every murderer in the lot was sure that every one else deserved his punishment. "He deserved what he got," said one. "He is guilty, and I don't deserve it," said one. "The fellow in the next cell killed his wife. He should be hanged for it, but I didn't. I got a fair trial," said another. "When they convicted me they convicted an innocent man." And so it went all down the line.

If a demagogue proposes a foolish law and succeeds in getting it passed, and it fails to benefit the people, he never thinks. The responsibility is the statesman makes a mistake, he acknowledges it. Recall the ill-digested, ill-conceived and objectionable laws that have been passed in moments of excitement, frenzy, misapprehension, etc. Not one of these laments and the men of prominence connected with these manifestations of popular unrest.—Rochester Labor Journal.

PHONE GIRLS UNDER STRAIN

There are in the United States about 125,000 telephone girls, whose average term of service is three years or less. The working hours are about eight per diem; the average salary is $9 per week, or 90 cents per hour, running "at the peak," to 225 or more. The operator sits, facing a switchboard which is studded with numbers, each number having a small signal light that flashes on and off as the call is received. The girl then inserts and raises his receiver a light flashes on the switchboard at "central," and this light continues to flash until central answers the number and receives the call. She then plugs the number called for and this light flashes and the person raises his receiver from the hook. When the receivers are replaced on the switch hooks, both lights flash and burn until the operator removes the connecting plugs. The operator can easily detect the flashes of light. As the average number of calls is 140 per hour, with 225 or more during the rush hours, the operator's eyes are exposed to from 500 to 1,000 flashes of light every hour, resulting in fatigue to the eyes. As a result of this and the mental and physical strain under which the operators work, according to the Bell system, in 1911, spent $720,953 for restrooms and lunch rooms for the operators, and has experimented with sufficient air and good illumination, yet, although only young and healthy girls are selected, the average length of service is found to exceed three years. The symptoms are headache, dullness, indigestion, exhaustion, nerve strain, insomnia, and sleep set forth. The two or three short years of telephone work frequently "burn out" as well as nine-tenths of all their suffering, is probably due to the constant nearsightedness, without one call more proper protection for the eyes.—Exchange.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN CONFER.

Kansas City, Mo., April 25.—The Railway Employes' Department of the A. F. of L. is in session in this city. Nearly 150 delegates are in attendance, as are many international officers who are allowed the privilege of discussing the questions. Many subjects of interest to the affiliated locals are being discussed, the more important being greater unity and more thorough organization.

REFUSE TEN-HOUR DAY.

Birmingham, Ala., April 25.—Machinists and pattern makers employed by the National Cast Iron Pipe and Foundry Company have been locked out because they would not accept the company's new working hours from nine to ten and a reduction of pay per hour.

NEVER GIVE UP

The only man who is really beaten in life is the man who gives up. He beats himself.

A man may be overwhelmed, crushed, baffled and apparently beaten beyond redemption, but if he will not give up, in him there will be something in him that will still hold out and raise the flag of defiance.

There is not one of us who is not at some time tired of the limits of our capacities. Each day is a hard, cruel battle; life is one continuous trial, and yet it happens often that those who seem the most surely beaten in the race for wealth, fortunes and bear the heaviest burdens, are the most cheerful and optimistic and inspiring of all.

Do not imagine that you are alone in battling with the fates and in being buffeted by the adversities. There are thousands and thousands of others who are having the same struggle, and you must learn from them to raise again and again after being beaten down, work bringing into play the last atom of your normal strength and proving yourself at last to have been a man.

Never give up. That is the only way you can be beaten and when you are beaten in that way it is by yourself.

The enemy you have been fighting could not have crushed you; you did it yourself.

No man of character, who is fighting for principle and right, ever knows surrender, is ever beaten in the battle of life.—Pittsburgh Iron Trades Journal.

RE-ARGUE CASE

The contempt case against Gompers, Mitchell, and Morrison was re-argued before the Supreme Court of the United States Monday and Tuesday of this week. The last argument was made on January 7, 1914, with Justice Hughes absent. The argument this week was before the full court.

The argument for the prosecution was made by Attorneys Davenport and Darlington. Mr. Davenport is attorney for the Anti-Boycott Association, Attorneys Parker and Ralston for the defense. No reason was given for the court calling for a re-argument, but it is the opinion of many that the court is divided on some one or perhaps all of the many issues involved, and it was necessary to have the nine members present so that a decision could be reached.

Judge Gompers and his colleagues of the Supreme Court of the District appealed from the decision of the District Court of Appeals, which sustained the sentence of President Gompers from one year's imprisonment to one month, Mr. Mitchell's nine months' imprisonment to a fine of $500, and of Frank Morrison from six months' imprisonment to a fine of $500. The defendants appealed from the modified sentences of the District Court of Appeals. It is expected that a decision in this case will be handed down at an early date.

PRISON SYSTEM SCORED

"Not until we stop grinding our children beneath the upper and the nether millstone of industry, not until we cease turning our children's heads in our factory chimney, will we stop creating criminals. We have to grow large enough to realize that this is a problem of waste and to know that we must stop creating human material for waste before we can put an end to the need of criminologists," were a few of the strong sentiments expressed by Dr. Orlando F. Lovejoy, of Washington University, who declared, before a meeting of the Philadelphia Contemporary Club, that a call must be sounded to reform without as well as within the prisons. "The problem of crime," he said, "is not what to do with the criminal. It is how to choke off the stream of criminality at its source. The criminal is not once a child. He is generally the graduate of our schools of crime,—our jails, and reformatories. He emanates from our mills and factories."

Lovejoy declared that the man who spent ten years in the San Quentin prison in California and Donald Lowrie, author of "My Life in Prison," have both been stigmatized the whole prison system as inhuman, un-Christian, a breeder of crime and hatred, a menace to society, having its root in fear of the criminal.

Lowrie declared that the man ceases to be a man and becomes a beast the moment the prison door closes behind him. He attacked the method of treatment which gives the individual the status of an animal, and ascribes to him the brutal impulses which have led to his imprisonment, and declared that disrespect of law, hatred and hatred are bred in the prisons of the country.

Thomas Mott Osborne found fault with not only many prisons, but with the police system, the legal and judicial procedure which sends a man to the "pen" within the penitentiary, he declared, the man is the subject of a method which is "brutal, stupid, pettiness, built upon idiotic local traditions, ignoring all elementary principles of human nature, even if they were beasts and punishing them without any reference to the quality of their crimes or their relation to society.

He drew a shudder from the audience when, after describing the old system at Auburn, where men went mad of thirst and died raving maniacs in the dark cells designed for those who break petty rules, he said:

"I don't know how many men we have killed, how many we have driven insane, how many we have made suicides in our Bendish attempts to 'reform' the criminals."

He attacked prison labor as slave labor, and declared that until the man is paid a decent wage in jail and is given the chance to compensate when he leaves it, the system will continue to be a failure.

HOW TO ORGANIZE

The strength of organized labor is in its extensions of organization.

Every unorganized worker in a given trade determines the standing of that trade as an organized power.

If all the workmen in San Antonio were organized, the workers would have the say in regulating conditions of labor in the city.

The proportion of organization determines the position of strength.

All this is self-evident.

But organization is not something that works automatically.

It is not something that can be left to the employers.

It is not even something that can be accomplished by an organizer or a committee.

It is something that can be accomplished by individual effort.

Every unorganized worker is an instrument of disorganization, so every organized worker must become an instrument of organization, but in a more aggressive sense.

He must go personally to the unorganized workers and urge him to join the union.

He must explain to him the principles and purposes of the union.

He must impress upon him his duty as a worker to his fellows.

He must inspire within him ideals of brotherhood, that Brotherhood of Labor which Christ said should be the strongest bond between men.—San Antonio Weekly Dispatch

TO FIGHT FOR TRADE.

Pittsburgh, April 26.—Realizing the parcel post has threatened their existence, representatives of several express companies held a meeting in this city to devise perfect plans to recoup their losses. It is proposed by the companies to get the lowest prices on the food products and then supply these prices to the consumer. The idea is to have the farmers club together, the middle man often being wholly eliminated, the express companies benefiting from handling only the produce from farm to town. One company announced the establishment of a food products house, with a branch in every section of the country. It is the intention to expand by having all employes increase their efforts to obtain orders for goods to be forwarded by express. The express men will make a specialty of distribution of food products and assist growers and producers to find suitable locations, sell, and markets, and aid in securing to best advantage sanitary packages and containers in which to ship their products, particularly perishables. The representatives of the other express companies said that their corporations were conducting food product bureaus along similar lines.

COST OF A MERE EXISTENCE

La Crosse, Wis., April 25.—Trade unionists in the city have investigated the question of living costs and agree that a family can exist at a weekly cost of $13.92. The following is the basis made to figure the cost of real living. The amount of food used each week by the average family in the city, and upon which permits the bare necessities only and nothing for luxuries or recreation, follows: Flour, 18.8 pounds; potatoes, 2.85 pounds; sacks of flour, 1.06; pecks of potatoes, 1.33 sugar, 3.5 pounds; coffee, 1.0 tea, 1.9; eggs, 2.2 dozen; tons of hard coal, a year 3.4; soft coal year, 5.3; cords hard wood, year, 2.2; cords soft wood, year 1.7, gas and electricity, month, $2.50; rent, month, $9.98. The figures on which the average is based was furnished by the families of 500 working men during a year and represent the actual outlay. The number of persons in an average family including father, mother and children ranged from two to ten years, is put at 4.9. The average cost of articles was secured from representative dealers of the articles in question.

RESTRICTION FOR ALIENS.

Philadelphia, April 25.—At the last meeting of the Central Labor Union, delegates representing local trade unions voted in favor of the Burnett immigration bill, now pending in the United States Senate. The literacy test was also approved, as it was the consensus of opinion that the passage of this act will be an advantage to the working people of the United States.

TWO KINDS OF SWAT

A citizen's use to the community is not at all fixed by the amount of taxes he pays. Many persons with wealth in society may have no relation at all to the sum of his own wealth on which he pays taxes.

There is a working man, say, who has six children attending public school in Kansas City it is estimated that it costs $40 of public moneys a year for the schooling of each child of school age.

There is another workman, who never earned a dollar in his life; who never contributed a cent to the social wealth, yet who became wealthy by simply "acquiring" a large piece of land on which the workers and the growth of the community have made. He thinks he is "enterprising" because he has the shrewdness to get some of the social cream. Those who have seen this problem in its actual bulk and its ominous colors have been none too easy in their minds concerning it. To bring order out of this alien-population chaos is sure to be expensive. But on the other hand it is far more expensive.—Boston Transcript.

LESSON IN HISTORY

To those persons who resent as new the proposal that the government take over the telegraph and telephone systems, we would commend the historical report prepared by a committee of postal employes at the request of the Postmaster General.

It is more than possible that they may have cause to revise their views, if they consider carefully the facts and figures included in the report. It is a man's history of the telegraph in this country.

This report indicates that it was the intention of the framers of the constitution to place the entire postal system itself a monopoly of the means of communication.

It also set in 1842 the government appropriated $30,000 for the purpose of testing in a practical way the electrical system which in its experimental stage.

The experiment was an entire success and a movement for the absorption of the new invention by the government was begun. Morse offered his patents to the government for $100,000 a year later and Postmaster General Johnson in 1846 urged that the telegraph be made a government function because of its "reform" criminale."

He attacked prison labor as slave labor, and declared that until the man is paid a decent wage in jail and is given the chance to compensate when he leaves it, the system will continue to be a failure.

"MUST PAY UNION WAGES."

Jersey City, N. J., April 25.—"I have to pay those union wages to my union painters," was the reason Municipal Commissioner James J. Ferris gave for advancing the wage rate of the painter employes from $3.50 to $4 per day.

WHAT WAR MEANS

Not in ages have war's ghastly penalties been more terribly illustrated than in the present plight of the Bulgarian people. Before the Balkan war a year a proud and prosperous young nation had been transformed into a land of misery. Several hundred thousand men, including the pick of the country's young men, have been slain. Other hundreds of thousands have given their country's hope and pride, are pitiful, mutilated cripples. Scattered all over the land are dependents on charity and to go down to final death with their lives unfulfilled. Tens of thousands of widows and children and thousands of little children are literally starving.

A land of small farms intensively cultivated by their owners, the most independent farmers of Southern Europe, has been devastated by the withdrawal of its cultivators, by the ravaging of granaries and cornerib and by the wanton wastage or destruction of farm buildings and by the impossibility of sowing for a new crop except on a very small portion of the land.

These are the inevitable fruits of the preaching of mere prejudice, of national rivalries based not on justice, but upon the greed of rulers and courts; and hatreds inculcated by religious teachers whose message should be love and peace.

In taking office of the stricken Balkanians the world should heed the lesson of their bitter experience.—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

WOULD ABOLISH J. P. SYSTEM.

Little Rock, Ark., April 25.—Lawyers in this city have joined the movement to abolish justices of the peace, and a bill to this effect has been drafted by a committee of the Bar Association to be introduced at the next meeting of the state legislature. The evils of this system have become so flagrant that it is now proposed to establish municipal courts presided over by persons who will receive a stated salary. Justices of the peace would be barred from receiving fees, except by the payment of instruments performing marriages, etc., and be placed on a salary of $25 a year for remuneration for their other work. The law would also place constables on a straight salary and the prosecuting attorney would receive no fee unless he personally prosecuted the case and unless the prosecution was requested. It is believed that this law would put justices of the peace out of business in the cities of the state.

LOCAL FOREIGN INVASION

It is doubtful whether the people of Massachusetts realize the portentousness of the case which has been offered by the Commission on Immigration. The danger was that this momentous intelligence would be smothered in the routine business of the day. The danger is no danger it is, too, since on our proper understanding of it and our willingness to act on the knowledge depends much of our prosperity of tomorrow. Merely to record that one-third of our Massachusetts population is "foreign born and native born of foreign parentage, and only the remaining third is what we term 'native stock'," is to make no impression. Figures, colors, especially since our educational institutions are at work only on a lamentably small proportion of these newcomers.

The Commission has not stopped with stating in the alarm. It comes also with the extinguishing apparatus. A part of the constructive program has been presented before the Committee on Education; three bills the first, an act to provide for the education and employment of illiterate and non-English-speaking persons (a project sufficiently self-justifying from the title); the proposal, second, an act to provide that the State Board of Education shall supervise the school attendance and employment of children; and the third to provide for the taking of an annual school census.

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BARRING CONVICT-MADE GOODS

Some time ago the House passed a bill excluding shipments of convict made goods from States, prohibiting the open sale of such goods therein. The bill was passed by the House to bar out from this country the product of foreign convict labor.

The purpose of both bills is to protect American free labor. It is said that under the tariff of 1890, foreign made goods were successfully excluded, but practically considerable difficulty was experienced in enforcing the law. Under the new law all goods that can be proven to be the product of convict labor cannot be entered at the treasury department. Any person knowingly, violating the law may be punished by a fine of $5,000 or less, or he may be imprisoned for a term of two years.

A law that protects American labor from the competition of convict labor abroad, whether convict or free, is wholesome and will meet public approval. So will a law that excludes the convict labor of one state from another state. Especially will this be true in the latter case if the state which produces goods does not otherwise be shipped, prohibits the sale of prison made goods in the open market. It will be generally admitted that for each state cares for its own convicts, it has the right to keep them in idleness or to make them self-supporting. It will also be admitted that if a state decides to protect its own free labor from its own convict labor, it should not be interfered with by another state.

It is possible, however, of supporting convicts in idleness at the expense of the state when they can be made wholly or in part self-supporting may be questioned. As a matter of fact a man has committed a crime is no sufficient reason for relieving him from the task either of contributing to his own support or that of his family if he is able to do so. It is the duty of the state to make either him or his family a load for the state to carry looks like an injustice.

It is possible that our own state has hit upon a plan to make the convict a producer without bringing him into competition with free labor. The plan, as we understand it, intends to use its convicts in building "good roads" and in other lines of public improvement for the benefit of the whole people. This is already using them in manufacture of binding twine.

If convict labor is to be used at all it should be used in those lines of employment for the benefit of citizenship. It would not do for them to waste their share of the profits. Once they live correctly, breathe the real, free air of heaven, and their physical strength are fully conserved, we can safely turn them loose.

"We now have forty-five investigators who are interviewing each employe. Every-day or two is the elimination from the Ford organization. Married men who keep boarders in their home will lose their places. So will single men who reside in rooming houses such as have been found in Highland Park, where they also live," Mr. Ford said today. "Married men should keep their households for themselves and their

FORD WARS ON BAD HOUSING

Mr. Ford has declared war against tenements and squalid rooming houses and no employe of the Ford Motor company will be allowed to live in them.

In a notice just sent to all the Detroit employes, Mr. Ford says the company expects each recipient of its profit-sharing fund to live up to the standards established by the Ford organization. Married men who keep boarders in their home will lose their places. So will single men who reside in rooming houses such as have been found in Highland Park, where they also live.

"These men of many nations must be taught American ways, the English language, the right way to live," Mr. Ford said today. "Married men should keep their households for themselves and their immediate families. They should not sacrifice family rights, pleasure and comfort by filling their homes with roomers and boarders.

"Single men are expected to live under conditions that make for good manhood and for good citizenship. It would not do for them to waste their share of the profits. Once they live correctly, breathe the real, free air of heaven, and their physical strength are fully conserved, we can safely turn them loose.

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GOVERNOR ANSWERS CRITIC

Columbus, Ohio, April 25.—Answering a Cleveland critic on the status of the workmen's compensation act which limits death benefits to $3,744, and which is termed a "disgrace to the State," Gov. Cox calls attention to the fact that the Ohio law is more generous in that respect than any other compensation law in the country. He calls attention to the investigation made by the commission some years ago by the Employers' Liability Commission, showing that in 125 cases the dependents of the deceased workmen got less than $200. In 242 cases they procured less than $600. In 213 cases they got less than $1,200. In only fifty-six cases did the dependents get more than $2,000. In only fifteen cases did the dependents get more than $4,000. The publicity in these suits would be compelled to pay attorney fees, and, assuming that the contingent fee was only 25 per cent, the dependents were left $3,000, much less than the maximum limit allowed by the Ohio law. Assuming that 25 per cent of the personal injury cases in Cuyahoga county (Cleveland) not one cent was collected.

In replying to the complaint that injured workmen and their dependents should be paid their compensation in a lump sum, the governor cited numerous cases in which this method has been done. The Industrial Commission has authority to make the award in a lump sum where it is to the workman's advantage that it, or make biweekly payments, always holding the remainder in trust. The law is elastic in this respect. It provides the same compensation for the dependents of a workman as without them. To this the state executive says: "This law, like any other great measure, can be refined by the courts, but the right to procure what we may term a better one, and any pretended assistance to the workmen in the form of a bill offered at this time is apt to excite some suspicion."

"I would prefer a plan," continued the governor, "under which compensation is advanced in 100 per cent of the industrial accidents. The industrial commission some time since reported that the maximum limit of compensation should be increased, and those who knew anything about the working of the law recognize that at the same time the premium to the manufacturer can be decreased. The workmen are not to be fooled. The Ohio law commissioners, after seeking to prevent the passage of the workmen's compensation law, then sought to deceive the people. Such such an effort was made to initiate a bill carrying a large compensation, as there is nothing new in the suggestion."

PERSONALITY OF PRINTERS

Have you ever considered the personality of printers? Do you know anything about them? If you don't know anything about this most useful body of men, the loss is a distinct one to you. We've known and considered among our acquaintances members of this craft of crafts. We have been proud of their friendship and honored by it. The printer is the brightest, most capable, most intellectually up-to-date man in the social system. He must be learned, because in the law, the doctor may stand him in his profession, the minister may have a very wide encyclopedia of theological lore, the merchant may be keen and alert in his business, but all of them depend on the broad general education of the average printer; and fewer of them can touch him in the matter of essential skill in composition.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat some time ago published a news item, the substance of which was to the effect that a man sentenced to the state prison there is not one printer. We have often seen it stated that this is generally true, and we have always had gratitude. Why is this so? We do not know, unless it is because the printer sees through the shams of life and has the inevitable follow of the criminal. He becomes so familiar with the seamy side of life that he instinctively avoids connection with the weavers of it. Moreover, he can't help seeing what it in any other way. He is a man, with all a man's passions, hopes, dreams; but he is a man who knows.

We all remember the old type printer, the man who lorded it before the days of the linotype. He usually owned the office. He was not insolent. He was self-confident. He knew that he could do the work; and what a mass of varied work he used to do! If the editor happened to be "boxpressed," that fact did not disconcert the printer—he got out the boiler plate. He was a handy man. He made up the forms, and ran the edition off, perhaps put out the mail.

Nowadays we have not that the printer, being human, became disgusted, got a habit. He's always drinking now, for one cause—and went on a tear. Those old-time printers were great tearers. These days editor and publisher would fire him. Spree might last many days; usually it lasted as long as the money held out; then he would be located in some newspaper and our printer was back on the job.

During these lapses our printer was a philosopher. He was a humorist, too. Pity the man who tackled him for an argument or a discussion! Our printer would demolish him. He'd always win. He's just about the smartest man we know. He may be a trifle cynical, but who shall blame him? He is a student who is not afflicted with the same complaint. He is a philosopher. He is a student of human life, which, in its essentials, is eternally the same. He discovers its weaknesses, its follies, its meanness, its achievements; but he is a clear-brained pessimist. You've got to show him; and when you do, you can't show him anything. He is a manipulator of and he keeps of being as well as the manipulator of the keys of his machine of the types in the case.

The printer is honest; he is independent. He can't help it. He must be able to back it up. He not only knows what it is and why, but the rest of the alphabet, too, he knows, it from Alpha to Omega, or from Beersheba unto Dan for damn, if you prefer it that way. Anyhow, he knows what he knows, and we like him. If the world only knew all that the printer knows about the world it is likely the world would not embrace him with caressed.—Clayton (Ohio) Herald.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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"MAN" TRANSCENDS GREED.

Wherever there is failure, unrest, suffering, bloodshed, in civilization the world over, that condition is due to one basic wrong, the failure of individuals to understand and to secure for themselves rights necessary to self-realization. From the beginning men groped vaguely for human rights. From bitter experience with wrong and injustice men have caught glimpses of things that might be. That ideal enabled them to formulate larger, better concepts of human rights. New concepts became the basis for new demands for humanity. This is the story of human progress—concepts born out of sorrow and suffering inspire greater purposes and lead to more glorious achievements of men for men.

That which has ever constituted the greatest barrier to the attainment of human rights has been property rights. It is a tragic commentary on present-day civilization that property rights which were established to serve men are used to enslave men. Property rights are means to ends—the material welfare of men that their minds, souls, and lives may be freer, better, more satisfying.

Property rights give men power. Men struggle for them. Greed has made men ruthless of everything that hinders the acquisition of property rights. Our civilization takes great pride in its material progress and business development. But business has used human rights as stepping stones to property rights. Business has made things of greater consequence than men.

Those who do the world's labor have been those who have borne the heaviest burdens of the injustice of business greed. They have struggled up from the depths of slavery. Freedom gave them rights as human beings. The maintenance of freedom depends upon the preservation of human rights and the development of more complete concepts.

The organization of business upon a big scale under centralized control has been the distinguishing characteristic of industry during the past twenty-five years. The increased power in the hands of big business employers was a menace to the freedom, the independence, the personal rights of the working people. As individuals they were unable to cope with the overwhelming power of employers. To preserve their individuality as human beings, to escape the fate of becoming mere working animals, the men and women of toil united into organizations. Their united strength enabled them to assert rights which were impossible to isolated workers.

Wherever organizations of workers are found there are found better citizens, better men and women. The organizations of labor are the means by which the toilers establish human rights—rights necessary for body and mind to reach greatest perfection.

Yet there are business men, grinding, pinch-penny employers who see everywhere naught but property rights translated into dollar marks. To them the worth of a man is what he has accumulated estimated in dollars, or what he can produce, estimated at the lowest possible wage valuation. To them property rights is the goal toward which all creation moves.

In order to establish more securely these property rights the men of dollars have tried to destroy the associations of working people. They have even tried to take from them the right to organize. They have perverted a law enacted to curb and control organizations of dollars in order to force them to serve the interests of men better, and have misused it to impede the operations or organizations of workers, yea, even to menace the very existence of such organizations.

Organized men now demand that that law, the Sherman Anti-trust law, shall be changed to subordinate property rights to human rights.

When the right of workers to organize to promote their own interests, to secure their personal rights, and to assert their power as individuals, is established, then they will be able to force upon all recognition of the value of men, the sacredness of human life and individuality.

Many a worker is only half a man because immediate needs has forced him to sell his personal rights for a mere subsistence wage. Through the collective power of organization he gains an opportunity to attain normal development.

The crimes of organized dollars, estimated in terms of human suffering, in warped, perverted individuality, in the stunting of human souls, are appalling.

Turn to the coal fields of Colorado. Consider the weary months of hardships, suffering, cruel injustice that the power of the Standard Oil Company has inflicted upon the coal miners of that state. They have been denied a republican form of government. They have been robbed of their rights under the civil law. They have been robbed of their rights to order their own lives. Men and women have been imprisoned and denied their constitutional rights. Their tent homes have been demolished, they have been fired upon, maimed, wounded, killed.

Last Tuesday as the final outrage their tents have been set afire, and men, women, and children have been shot and burned to death.

And the man who controls those coal fields presumes to justify those crimes against humanity by avowing that his purpose is to preserve individual liberty! The expression, individual liberty, is such bitter mockery in the coal fields of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company—such cruel satire when the only means by which they can maintain personal rights is denied them.

Organizations are necessary to protect workingmen against the greed of employers. Without them individual workers are helpless against the overwhelming power of employers.

Not only must the right to organize be established for all workers, but the activities necessary to give organization reality and effective ness must be accorded. Without the right to these activities the right to organize is but a delusion—a mere rhetorical declaration.

These are human rights which must be established if human workers are to secure full freedom and opportunity for most complete development.

This issue between property rights and human rights is the one big issue that is now forced upon the attention of the citizens of our nation and upon their political representatives.

Upon the decision of this issue depends the welfare of the nation. Shall we have more regard for the value of property than for the value of men, or shall we put a value upon men, human life, and power that shall transcend all else? Shall we make this a world of dollars or a world of men? Shall property be our last thought, or shall we see beyond property the infinite possibilities of men—see under-nourished, ill-clothed, battered humanity grow into strong, confident, free individuals, served by the wealth of the universe?

This is the ideal of the organized workers. To achieve this purpose they demand legislation that shall assure the right to organize to secure and to maintain human rights, and the legislation that will secure activities are necessary to promote the welfare of men, women, and children.

The workers of America demand the enactment into law of the rights provided for by the Bartlett-Bacon bills.

They demand that nothing shall take precedence over these human rights.

SECRETARY REDFIELD'S PLEA FOR LABOR

San Francisco entertained a big man last week; an extraordinary man as the world goes now, but a prophet of the American business man of the future. At present, the "successful business man" is one who thinks, lives, moves and has his being in a small circle of output and markets. There are a few exceptions. A very noteworthy exception is Secretary William C. Redfield, a very successful business man who is probably a very happy man, because he is known by two addresses made here, he thinks along the broadest human lines, and is more interested in humanity than in business or dollars.

Speaking before the Economic Club, this successful business man said that "out of our American mills and factories today is coming the song of humanity set free," because "more and more the principle that compels the man who has better advantages than other men to treat those others with generous consideration is being observed by American business men." Mr. Redfield was applauded when he said that, as when he said, "The man who can lead his employes so that they are willing to work with him, as opposed to the man who can only drive his men, is the man who is going to survive in American business."

It was well for this business man and member of the Cabinet to emphasize the fact that highpriced labor is the cheapest labor; that "as labor rises in efficiency it goes up in cost;" and that "the American laborer, working shorter hours and receiving higher wages than any other class of labor in the world, is the cheapest labor in the world, because his work is the best and can be sold where the lower priced labor of his cheaper competitors cannot be sold." That is a timely answer from a successful manufacturer to those who say that "high-priced American labor cannot compete on equal terms with cheap foreign labor." And this, also, is timely, especially when it is asserted by a successful manufacturer:

"We American business men have three facts to consider in solving the problems of the most efficient management of our manufacturing plants—the machinery, the material and the men. Now, we have learned to see to it that our machinery is the best that can be had, and the material with which we deal. We employ experts in these matters. We think, too, that machinery can grow tired—for what man acquainted with machinery but knows the term 'chatter'—which applies to the noise made by machinery when it is over-driven, when, in short, it is tired. And we know all about the fatigue of metals. And we have learned to consider our machinery and our material according to the laws of their own nature. But it is only recently that we have learned to deal with men according to the laws of humanity.

"But we are beginning to recognize that the eight-hour day has a physiological basis. We know nowadays that tired men and women are poisoned men and women. They are poisoned by the toxic products that they own bodies when overworked, or when they work in bad air and under unsanitary conditions. Putting aside the humanitarian considerations and looking at the matter coldly and calmly from a scientific point of view, I hope to God, gentlemen, that we shall see the day when no employer of labor can afford to have tired men and women about their shops and factories.

Scientists, reformers, and altruists have been saying much the same thing for a good many years. Now it is asserted by a successful manufacturer, not as theory but as practical fact found to be practical in business. Secretary Redfield's visit to San Francisco will bear good fruit.—San Francisco Star.

LIKENS ORGANIZED CHARITY TO A DRUG

Organized charity, in its application to destitute mothers, was likened to the continued employment of an opiate to relieve pain, by Judge Henry Neil, "Father of Mothers' Pensions." Judge Neil put the mothers' pension law in Illinois. He is now working to put a similar law on the New York State statute books. He is attempting to expand organized charity, and with the one idea to have mothers' pensions laws enacted in every State, declares that such a law must include all. Not every one will agree with Judge Neil's argument, but many sociologists and philanthropists believe in his ideals.

"There are two ways of treating poverty," said Judge Neil in an address recently; "they are as far apart as wisdom and folly. The one is to cure by removing the cause. The other is to alleviate by sweetening the results. The first is the method adopted and advocated by the National Probation League, not only for the treatment of poverty, juvenile and adult, but also in the treatment of crime. It is the great modern idea.

"It was this idea which marked the difference between French failure and American success in building the Panama canal. Physicians sought to cure by medical treatment the yellow fever which killed its workmen, but success only destroyed the mosquito which produced the disease. This is the principle upon which is conducted the benevolence and 'mothers' pensions—the two greatest preventives of crime and poverty ever put in operation by legislative enactment.

"The other method of dealing with poverty—that of lightening somewhat the heavy load of the sufferer—for an hour, a day, or a month, as the emergency may demand, is the usual method of charity. Organized or unorganized—a method good so far as it goes, is like a lost traveler walking in a circle—or a boy riding a hobby horse—plenty of motion but no progress.

"It is useless for charity, organized or unorganized, to claim the ability to remove the cause of poverty in the vast majority of cases. To do this two things are requisite—knowledge and power. To the knowledge and what it implies, should be done must be added the power to compel compliance.

"The charity worker finds on every hand conditions which, unless removed or remedied, render utterly inefficient and inoperative any attempt to put an end to the applicant's dependency, but moral sustain, the only weapon available, is generally useless to bring about such results. If threats are made or the courts appealed to, charity loses its beauty and significance and becomes hateful to its beneficiary.

"Herein lies the great advantage of mothers' pensions administered by the courts, which possess both the ability to acquire a knowledge of the facts and also the power to enforce its directions. Because of its limitations in this regard, charity, no matter how fully organized, can never be more than a temporary expediency in the treatment of poverty. It is like the life belt which sustains the man who cannot swim, but not a lifeboat rescues him.

"Nor is it advisable that charity should aim to do more than this. Long continued charity pauperizes and demoralizes; morphine temporarily relieves pain is valuable, but as a steady diet it is not to be recommended. Charity should, therefore, be voluntary and spontaneous when the need is presented. Organized charity, which becomes professional, not only robs benevolence of its chiefest charm, but suggests to the recipient a false and demoralizing hope of permanent assistance."

WELFARE SONG.

Sing a song of "Welfare,"
A pocket full of sticks
To smoothe the weary worker
When he groans or kicks.
If a sake for shorter hours
Or for better pay,
Little stunts of "Welfare"
Turn his thoughts away.

Sing a song of "Welfare,"
Sound the horn and drum,
Anything to keep the mind
Fixed on the King dollar bum;
"Welfare" loots your pocket
While you dream and sing;
"Welfare" is a blank check
Doesn't do a thing.

Sing a song of "Welfare,"
Forty 'leven kinds;
Elevate your morals,
Cultivate your minds.
Kindergartens, nurses,
Bath tubs, books, and flowers,
Anything but better pay
Or shorter working hours.
—Toronto Lance.

HONOR IN UNIONISM

No person need feel ashamed of holding a union card in the face of the world, says exchange. No class of society or organization or philanthropist has done as much for the common people as the labor unions.

Philanthropists build a home for the working men and women after they have left the home of their parents.

Unions are making the home fireside fit for sons and daughters to remain in the true home—that of their parents—by increasing wages so that a father may support the family and make the home what it should be.

Philanthropists build libraries, while unions shorten the hours of labor to give the workingmen time to read the books.

Unions shorten hours of labor to place more of the men to work who are willing to work.

Unions build hospitals and the unions take care of the family while the breadwinner is in them.

Labor unions have fought to save the children from the factory and place them in the schools by having child labor laws and increasing the wages of the fathers so that it would not be necessary to send the child to work.

Labor unions have done more good among their members in regarding morality and sobriety than any other class, through changing the surroundings of their members.

Labor unions have made better citizens of the working class by having them take an interest in the common welfare of the community.

These statements can all be verified by any person, and it can also be substantiated that the benefits of organized labor's work has not been confined to its members, but the working class as a whole has received the benefit of its work.—Rochester Labor Journal.

A FAIR ANALYSIS

It may be fair to assume that the Socialist leaders who use such words as do a lot of loud talking in the labor union are under the impression that they are a valuable asset, but if they would look about and observe the condition of the members in the union who have Socialist orators on the floor at every meeting, it might change their mind if it were possible, even when it is honest, combed with Socialism is of no value to its members. The same may be said of unions that claim to be a class conscience or a materialistic conception speech at every meeting. It drives the real constructive workers away and eventually results in the comrades having control. Does it mean if it is possible to a reduction in working hours; it is good-by to any improved sanitary conditions.

The above is not the opinion of one man, it is not the opinion of any one group of men, it is a matter of record. In the trades of our city that are well organized and receive good wages. Socialistic principles are scarce as they are in any other constructive movement that gives value received. Then, on the other hand, we find that in some of the largest industries the brightest lights among the I. W. W. and Mc-Donald and Wanhope. That is also a matter of record.

It is almost impossible for harmony to prevail in a local union when some of the members are forever pulling in the opposite direction. They aim to cast shadows of suspicion on all who are taking an active part in the union affairs unless he is one of the comrades. Socialists have the same right as a Democrat or Republican to advocate their policies or to spread their propaganda where they will, but they have no more right to inject their policies into the labor organizations than either of the above political organizations has to inject the above labor organizations than the reconstructed enemies, it diverts the mind and the energy and time from fighting adds which the real benefits come.—Rochester Labor Journal.

FARE WORSE THAN CONVICTS

The average ship's forecastle or crew's quarters is no better or more like the black hole of Calcutta than an abode for workingmen—if a person should judge by the description of matters at the San Quentin penitentiary, says the Coast Seamen's Journal.

The crew of the ship Bee in San Quentin, for example, is a marvel of clean, sanitary housing. There are 800 single cells in the building, each containing a white enameled bed, a stationary white enameled wash basin, with hot and cold water connections, and a water closet. Then, of course, there is the electric light in each cell and plenty of ventilation. That cell house must be seen to be appreciated. In comparison with a typical bunkhouse in a construction camp, the San Quentin cell house is about 500 years ahead of the times.

It is a certainty that the men who labor for the benefit of firemen, cooks, or waiters will have to agitate for many more years before they can hope for such accommodations on board ship similar to those provided for the State's prisoners.

ONE HONEST OFFICIAL

Notwithstanding the law-breaking, unconstitutional, pardon-killing axi abusing, murdering and general all-around development indulged in by the governor, the state militia, gunmen, peace officers, and mine owners of Colorado, there is one official in the state who is the unfortunate state that stands up for the law and does all that is in his power to enforce it, which possess both the ability to acquire a knowledge of the facts and also the power to enforce its directions. Because of its limitations in this regard, charity, no matter how fully organized, can never be more than a temporary expediency in the treatment of poverty. It is like the life belt which sustains the man who cannot swim, but not a lifeboat rescues him.

"Nor is it advisable that charity should aim to do more than this. Long continued charity pauperizes and demoralizes; morphine temporarily relieves pain is valuable, but as a steady diet it is not to be recommended. Charity should, therefore, be voluntary and spontaneous when the need is presented. Organized charity, which becomes professional, not only robs benevolence of its chiefest charm, but suggests to the recipient a false and demoralizing hope of permanent assistance."

"REFORMING"

Under the above caption, the Chicago Tribune refers to present-day tendencies. While the writer seemingly fails to distinguish between the movement that would regulate others, and a movement that depends on the voluntary action of interested individuals, there are healthy sentiments contained in the following, which may be read with profit:

There is no country in the world in which there is more persistent, pervasive and diversified "reforming" than our own. In the United States a number of organizations, social, civic, political, moralistic, educational, etc., were drawn up, we believe, the mere sight of it would bring panic to the powers of evil and send them in rout from the field.

Certainly, if not merely a list but the organizations themselves could be brought together, they would be greatly heartened for the fray and the spirits of darkness correspondingly cast down.

But what is even more noticeable at times in this vast activity than its fervor is its want of co-ordination, its waste, its failure to achieve results commensurate with its effort and its hopes. Hobhouse, the leading living philosopher of English Liberalism, remarks upon this want in his "Social Evolution and Political Theory," and cites Herbert Spencer's graphic figure of the sheet of metal. Give a man such a sheet with a dint in it and ask him to flatten it out. If he knows nothing of metal work he will take a hammer and knock the dint flat, only to find that it has appeared elsewhere. Thus it is with our efforts at reforming society.

We put down overt crime only to find that some form of secret vice is increasing. A temperance crusade suppresses drunkenness, and it is discovered that those who used to drink now find an outlet for excitement in gambling. Compensation for accidents is secured by law to workmen, and in consequence it is alleged that elderly workmen are refused situations. Workmen form trade unions to maintain and improve the conditions of their work, and no sooner do they succeed than their employers imitate them and form federations by which the unions are overpowered. Strikes are replaced by mutual agreements which are to initiate an era of industrial peace, and it is found that the remedy for excitement the less it meets the local difficulties of mine and workshop, and we see working-men striking substantially against their own leaders.

Now, whether or not, in any case, there has been any real progress, this sort of waste, and in many cases unnecessary waste, is unquestionable, and we ought try to diminish it by a more intelligent expenditure of our reforming energy.

In the United States a number of factors make for unusual waste in this field. There is the national superstition of the complete efficacy of legislation. When you see anything that seems to you wrong, clap a law on it—and forget it. We have also a false kind of "humanity" which worships "immediate results. We are proud of activity as mere activity and have the national vice of nervosity, impatient national temperament does not submit to routine. We like the excitement of rapid motion and don't stop to realize that it may be the motion of a whirligig.

This squares well with a third factor of reform, namely, selfish politics, which "rushes in where angels fear to tread." results" in the form of commissions, inquiries, reports and new laws. That adds not a little to the sheet of metal. Give a professional politician and gives him his ostensible raison d'etre.

In the face of this excessive waste in reforming, in opinion of Hobhouse, must be brought the principle of a common understanding, through the emergence of clearer ideas of social progress as a whole, and "the assimilation of the reforming energy of its constituent parts." This cure will not appeal to the mind that is looking for immediate results, but to the more academic and remote to the hustling American especially, but it is the only cure, nevertheless. There are laws not made by legislatures which stubbornly refuse to repeal themselves in the behest ardent reformers with panaceas or programs. It is necessary in the long run to take them into account unless we are so fond of hammering out sheet metal that we are content forever to go on making new dints for old.

SCHOOLS DO NOT APPEAL TO BOYS

Personal preference and not necessity has induced most of Toledo's juvenile laborers to go to work.

Inadaptability of public school work to the individual child more than the dire need of poverty-stricken or the greed of selfish parents is responsible for local violations of state child-labor laws. The sentiment described has been made by child welfare workers through a canvass of the city's juvenile workers.

Without exception children who have been questioned concerning their reasons for leaving school and going to work have declared that they preferred work to school and that they made the shift voluntarily," comes the report from Child Welfare headquarters. "When school children reach the required age limit of fourteen years the majority of them seem to prefer work to continued schooling. Our canvass of many juvenile workers has provided endorsement of the declaration of Dr. Hearing, formerly secretary of the Pennsylvania child labor committee, that lack of adaptability on the part of schools rather than inconsiderate parents is responsible for the early entrance of juveniles into labor. According to Dr. Hearing, "the boy of twelve who wishes to continue school has no choice. Be his mind square, triangular or hexagonal, it will be hammered, pushed and pulled through the same round hole of the school curriculum, which has been worn smooth and polished by the passage of the square peg of square, triangular, hexagonal — which were one and all hammered, pushed and pulled through the same identical round hole of school curriculum in the same manner. The boy of twelve who wishes to do work has an infinite variety of choices before him. The excuses which children offer for leaving echoes like the same everywhere. They do not like to study, do not like the teachers; the work is not interesting; failed to get promoted, do not like to be bossed; want some pocket money. Many parents are willing that their boys and girls leave school at fourteen, feeling that they are wasting their time there, since they are not being prepared for life. To such parents vocational training comes as a Godsend."

Plans for every boy and girl in Toledo may be given an individual chance for proper education, success and happiness when the Child Welfare exhibit is being arranged for public inspection in the Museum of Art. By providing that the child will be part of education to which he is most inclined and most susceptible, more efficient, more contented and more prosperous citizens will be provided for the future, according to child welfare ideas.—Toledo Evening Blade.

NEED FOR THE EIGHT HOUR DAY

The success of organized labor in increasing wages of workmen has been brilliant and signal, but has not been more important than its success in reducing the hours of labor. An increase in the rate of wages means more and more comfortable luxuries of life; a decrease in the hours of labor, the opportunity to enjoy these comforts and luxuries. The shortening of the working hour moreover, stands for freedom from toil at the time when it becomes most exhausting, wearing, and dangerous—the still further, it stands for leisure, recreation, education and family life.

Owing to the fact that the work of the modern world is becoming more and more a matter of nervous energy, of skill and intelligence and less a matter of mere brute force, the reduction in hours is not only of advantage but of absolute necessity. Even when work is simply and purely physical it is not economical to work long hours and thereby lose the benefit of fresh energy.

In fact the intensity of modern industry makes it imperative where work is intense, or when intelligence, ingenuity and initiative are required, that a man not get more out of a man than is in him, and if you take too much one day brilliant and signal, but has not been on succeeding days.

The most curious feature about the history of the reduction of hours is that in almost all cases the trade unions have been obliged to force employers, often by strikes, to grant reduction which have ultimately proved to their advantage. In the middle of the century and the beginning and middle of the nineteenth century claimed that they would be ruined if hours were reduced, and this complaint is repeated wherever an attempt is made to decrease the hours of labor. Wherever the reduction has been made, however, the result has been a decided benefit not only to the workmen but to his employer.

In so far as lessened hours mean increased efficiency and cheapened cost, there can be no question as to the advisability of shortening the working day, and in such cases employers should be compelled to adjust their own methods to their own permanent interest, by adjusting themselves to reasonable conditions. Even where the advantage to the employer is not apparent, an increased number of working hours should not be tolerated. Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale University, states the matter correctly when he says in his report on national vitality to the National Conservation Commission that "we are living in a continuous state of overfatigue. It starts a vicious circle leading to the craving of stimulants to allay fatigue, thus inducing drunkenness and other excesses. Experience in reducing the working day shows a great improvement in the physical efficiency of laborers, in many cases resulting in even more than a profit sufficiently to compensate the employer for the shorter day. Several examples of such increased efficiency are given as evidence of a shorter work day is found in the interest of the employer. An increase in reduction in hours means a strengthening of the workingman,' the growth of a keener intelligence, and an improvement in his home life.

As to the oft-repeated charge that a reduction in the hours of labor means more time and more money spent in drinking and dissipation, the facts, however, indicate the true fact, namely, that overlong hours directly induce dissipation and the unanimous testimony of all competent observers, teachers, ministers, sociologists, has been to the effect that a reduction in the hours of labor almost invariably means an improvement in the whole moral tone of the community, a raising of the standard of living, a growth of self-respect of the workingman, and a diminution, not an increase, in drunkenness, violence, and crime. If the American workman can be intrusted with the control of his hours it is certainly safe to intrust him with a few hours of leisure.—John Mitchell.

LET IT BE SAID OF ME

By Kate Brownlee Sherwood.

Let it be said of me—
Not that my wit was subtlest of them all;
Not that its thrust was keenest; that the fall
Of him, my foe, was compassed by my act;
That I was versed in fame, in strife
Not that I had the gift of speech to sway;
A multitude to think the other way;
Not that the world of custom was my guide;
Not that in rich possessions was my pride.

Let it be said of me—
Not that I strove and ran and won the prize,
And blocked the way when others sought to rise;
Not that my voice was heard in wild hurrah
When ancient laurels fell to higher law;
Not that my eyes were blind when shame was set
To dazzle folly into mild regret;
Not that my ears were deaf to sob and cry
Beneath the wheels when splendor hurried by.

Let it be said of me—
Wherever there was holy cause to serve,
Or hearts that ache, or perils that unnerve;
Wherever there was arduous task to do,
A path to light, a duty to pursue;
Wherever there was child to wrest from wrong,
Or weary soul athirst for love and song,
Wherever lives of time cried to be free,
My hand was reached—let it be said of me.